QL684
.I3
M4
v. 10
no. 3
2001

Meadowlark

A JOURNAL OF ILLINOIS BIRDS

Volume 10, Number 3 *2001*

Illinois Ornithological Society

Publisher
Illinois Ornithological Society

Geoff Williamson, President

Sheryl De Vore, Chief Editor

Steven D. Bailey, Vice President

Michael Hogg, Treasurer

Denis Bohm, Membership Secretary

Board of Directors
Steven D. Bailey
Denis Bohm
Mary Hennen
Alex Meloy
Robert Montgomery
Joe Suchecki
Douglas Stotz
Dan Williams
Geoff Williamson

Associate Editors
Steven D. Bailey, Paul R. Clyne, David B. Johnson, Christine Williamson

Staff Photographers
Joe Milosevich, Dennis Oehmke, Eric Walters

Staff Illustrators
David Athans, Denis Kania, Peter Olsen, Michael L.P. Retter, Brian K. Willis

Pre-Press Production
Lisanne Freese
Chicago, Illinois

Printing
CityWide Printing
Des Plaines, Illinois

Editorial Advisory Board
Steven D. Bailey, Dale Birkenholz, H. David Bohlen, Kenneth J. Brock, Victoria J., Byre, Robert T. Chapel, Mary Hennen, Scott Hickman, L. Barrie Hunt, Vernon M. Kleen, Scott K. Robinson, Douglas Stotz, Robert Szafoni, David Willard

President's Message

More than 100 years ago the very first Christmas Bird Counts took place, and a count in Glen Ellyn, Illinois was one of them. That count included a number of "prairie hens," birds that you can't find in northern Illinois anymore. Christmas counts today are beginning to log Eurasian Collared-Doves, a naturalized species that would not have been seen back at the start of the 20th century. And so the record of 100 years of birders counting birds in mid-winter shows the effect that human beings have had on bird populations.

The record also captures natural events. By looking at the numbers over many years one can see the ebb and flow of the northern limit of the Carolina Wren population as it responds to weather conditions. Invasion years by northern birds like Northern Shrikes and "winter finches" stand out in the accumulated record. The article in this issue of *Meadowlark* tells you what we learned from last year's efforts in this annual counting ritual. You may want to go back to previous years' CBC articles and refresh your memory on what happened over the last decade.

Now there are some 60 different Christmas Bird Counts taking place in Illinois, giving you ample opportunity to participate. Your efforts will be much appreciated by the compilers of the counts, and your efforts will help achieve IOS's objective to keep a permanent record of Illinois bird life. A year from now you'll be able to read in *Meadowlark* what you and your fellow counters found on a statewide level. And 100 years from now, ornithologists and birders will be using the data you are collecting today to understand what is happening to bird populations and distributions.

But also remember that a Christmas count is fun. There's camaraderie, the excitement of finding a bird lingering north of its usual wintering range or one that's unusual or rare in our state, and the enjoyment of our regular winter residents. I know I'm always cheered by the burst of color a cardinal brings to a winter's day of birding!

— Geoff Williamson

Visit our Web site at: http://www.illinoisbirds.org

Letter from the Editor

Anyone who has ditched work to see a rare bird, raise your hand. Yes, that's what I thought. So I'll confess, when the Long-tailed and Parasitic Jaegers had claimed Lake Chautauqua for their home several weeks last September, Steve Bailey and I left Mundelein on a work day (actually he was off, so he's not in trouble, I am) to drive the 3-to-4-hour trip to see the jaegers. We first found the Parasitic and Long-tailed in the water, both on the same side of the dike, but keeping their distance. The Long-tailed later caught grasshoppers on the gravel road and even walked up the road with us following it.

Birders are always looking for something to add to the excitement of their avocation — playing hooky from work to see a rare bird, for example. Another exciting part of birding is observing the behavior of common and rare birds. It's exciting, for example, to watch a Cooper's Hawk sneak into a huge Norway spruce in my front yard, snatch a bird as the rest of the chickadees, finches, and sparrows scatter, then fly to a nearby conifer to pluck the feathers and partake of its dinner – all within easy view from my picture window.

Dan Kassebaum, Steve Bailey, Kevin Richmond, and many other Illinois birders observed the state's first accepted Long-tailed Jaeger at Carlyle Lake in 1999 and the state's second accepted Long-tailed at Chautauqua in 2000 for many hours. They wrote notes and are sharing them with us in this issue of *Meadowlark*. Photographers, too, are sharing their photos here to support the words written by the authors.

In our next issue, we'll feature another jaeger article, an intriguing one about their status and notes on how much birders and ornithologists do and don't know about these species' behavior. Hopefully another exciting part of birding for you is to read an account of a bird you added to your Illinois list, and then relive the experience in *Meadowlark*. Enjoy, and thanks for reading.

— *Sheryl De Vore*, sdevore@voyager.net

MEADOWLARK

A Journal of Illinois Birds

Volume 10, Number 3-2001

ISSN 1065-2043

Articles

Illinois' First Confirmed Long-tailed Jaeger *(Stercorarius longicaudus)* — Dan Kassebaum 82

Illinois' Second Confirmed Long-tailed Jaeger with Notes on the Species' Identification, Behavior, Status, and Inland Migration — Steven D. Bailey 84

The Status of Gray Partridge In Illinois: An Update — Daniel Williams 93

Who Knew? A Smew! *(Mergellus albellus)* — Robert Chapel 95

The 2000/2001 Illinois Christmas Bird Count — David B. Johnson 97

Departments

Photo Quiz — Steven D. Bailey 96

Field Notes: The 2000/2001 Winter Season — Kelly J. McKay 109

About our cover

Michael L.P. Retter created the cover drawing of the Long-tailed Jaeger, a species documented for the first time in the state the summer of 1999. See page 82 for details.

Copyright © by the Illinois Ornithological Society. No part of this journal may be reproduced without the written permission of IOS and the chief editor, except brief passages of a paragraph or less in which attribution is made to the journal and author.

Illinois' First Confirmed Long-tailed Jaeger *(Stercorarius longicaudus)*

by Dan Kassebaum

On Wednesday 22 September, 1999 I made a special after-school trip to Carlyle Lake in Clinton County to scout for the upcoming IOS field trip that weekend. Within minutes of setting up my scope I located a jaeger over the lake. Luckily the bird flew in and fed very near my position and I soon realized I was looking at a juvenile pale-phased Long-tailed Jaeger *(Stercorarius longicaudus)*, Illinois' first accepted record (Stotz 2001). Luckily I came prepared and had several good field guides as reference. My initial clue as to the identification of the bird was its peculiar habit of feeding. Unlike the aggressive fish-stealing behavior of the larger jaegers, this bird passively hovered barely over the surface of the water feeding on the tremendous swarms of midges that had amassed over the lake. The bird continued in this manner for another 15 minutes maintaining its position near the pavilion at Eldon Hazlet State Park Sailboat Marina. Only after being harassed by a group of Ring-billed Gulls (Larus delawarensis) did the jaeger change its behavior and continue south toward the dam. With the parking lot so near the pavilion, I was able to access my reference material and examine the bird with books in hand.

Everything matched: the overall grayish tones, the breast-band, the nearly diagnostic belly patch, the darker flight feathers and lack of any obvious flash of white in the wings as the bird banked. After carefully studying the bird and making annotated illustrations I phoned Albert Seppi hoping he could rush to the lake with his camera equipment. I returned to the dam to watch the bird until it got too dark to observe. No papers would be graded that evening; instead there would be long distance phone calls to Chillicothe and Decatur.

Confusion

This story really begins on Saturday 18 September 1999. I had birded Carlyle all day and spent a good deal of time scoping the lake with hopes of finding a Sabine's Gull *(Xema sabini)*. I had no luck with the gull and worse yet, when I got home, I learned from Jim and Charlene Malone that they had observed a distant jaeger from the very location I had been at earlier in the day. The next morning, I met Keith McMullen and Myrna

This photo shows the Lake Carlyle Long-tailed Jaeger in flight over the pontoon boat during an Illinois Ornithological Society "pelagic" field trip. The strongly barred underwings indicate the bird is a juvenile. The white upper belly and lower breast area seen here as unmarked white strongly point to Long-tailed Jaeger. Photo taken by Rhonda Monroe 25 September 1999.

Deaton, and we had little trouble locating the jaeger. Leroy Harrison also happened to be at the lake and with a corps of four solid birders we tentatively identified the bird to be a Parasitic Jaeger *(S. parasiticus)*.

With my encounter on 22 September, it did not occur to me that I was probably looking at the same bird I had seen that weekend. It behaved so differently that I assumed it to be another jaeger. The bird I observed Sunday, 19 September, acted like a jaeger. As expected it chased gulls and surprisingly even an Osprey *(Pandion haliaetus)*. The bird I observed Wednesday, 22 September, acted more like a nighthawk, slowly gliding over the water's surface snapping at insects. When I hot-lined the bird that evening I reported it to be different from the jaeger seen that weekend and so planted the seed that would lead to so much confusion by the 25 September field trip.

Thursday, 23 September, brought in a group of eager birders hoping to add a new bird to their state lists. Those who got to Carlyle early found the bird precisely at the same spot it had been seen the previous evening. Even so, opinions differed as to which bird

they were seeing, the Parasitic from the weekend or the Long-tailed from Wednesday's hotline. Those who got there later that day were unable to locate the jaeger.

I returned to Carlyle on Friday afternoon, 24 September, and found the jaeger well out over the lake. It was chasing gulls and acting like a jaeger and so was assumed to be the Parasitic. Frank Bennett was there earlier that same day and shot some video. He, too, assumed the bird to be the Parasitic. For the time being, it was reported that two jaegers were present at the lake, with the Parasitic being the easier of the two to locate. Although all the jaeger reports since Saturday, 18 September, were roughly from the same location, two birds were never positively seen at the same time. Given the difficulty of identifying jaegers, coupled with the misinformation of the presence of two birds, Saturday's field trip was headed for a birding minefield.

Looking east into the morning sun, observers again located the jaeger that Saturday and identified it as the Parasitic. The field trip included rented pontoon boats, and allowed those on board excellent views of the jaeger. Fortunately, the bird was photographed and later revealed to the surprise of many its true identity. Michael Retter posted an excellent overhead shot taken by Rhonda Monroe on his Web site (see opposite page). On seeing the photo, I e-mailed Michael and expressed my opinion as to the identification of the bird. He agreed it had to be a Long-tailed Jaeger, and with the help of Wes Serafin via the Internet, we set out to unravel the mystery. Retter was able to gather and post other photos from that day and solicited opinions as to the identity of the bird. Had Retter not been so diligent in this task, this record would most likely have gotten tossed as merely an unidentified jaeger.

Two Become One

So how can two birds conveniently become one? The most confusing issues of this sighting can best be explained with the series of photographs taken from the pontoon boat the day of the field trip. Nearly everyone involved agrees that the jaeger seen the weekend of 18-19 September was the same bird as seen the day of the IOS field trip. Depending on the angle of the light, the bird can look quite dark brown or very gray. The photos were all taken from the same boat within minutes if not seconds of each other. These photographs produced various results, so much, that one might assume they are of two different birds. In the overhead photos the jaeger appears dark brown. Photos of the jaeger low over the water produce an appearance that is quite gray. The suggestion that this sighting consisted of two separate birds is partially a result of this effect. The observations on the weekend of 18-19 September were of the bird well out on the lake. As to be expected the bird appeared quite dark brown. My observations on Wednesday evening, 22 September, were from above and very close to the shoreline, which explains the lighter gray tones that I described in my documentation submitted to the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee. The weekend of the IOS field trip, viewing conditions from shore were much like the previous weekend with long views well out over the lake hampered by refraction or heat waves over the water. The consistent field marks evident at all practical distances throughout the three weekends of this sighting are the striking white belly patch and lack of obvious white flash at the base of the primaries.

The photos also reveal another piece of supportive evidence that in retrospect seems obvious. This was a small jaeger. A single photograph may provide an argument that the two birds depicted aren't within the same vertical plane, meaning one of the birds is much nearer the camera than the other. However, three photos from three different photographers all reveal a consistently smaller bird compared with a Ring-billed Gull *(Larus delawarensis)*.

The jaeger in the photos is chasing the Ring-billed Gull, an image that any birder/photographer would want to capture. The jaeger is clearly smaller than the gull, indicating a Long-tailed Jaeger, despite its Parasitic-like behavior. See Olsen and Larsson (1997) for size references and other identification factors for the Long-tailed Jaeger.

Another interesting aspect of this record is the association of the Long-tailed Jaeger with the enormous swarms of midges and Tree Swallows *(Tachycineta bicolor)* present at the lake at the same time. When the jaeger was seen at midday it flew and fed in typical jaeger fashion chasing the numerous Ring-billed and Franklin's Gulls *(L. pipixcan)*. Conspicuous in their midday absence were the thousands of swallows that appeared over the lake at dusk. During the hottest parts of the day I noticed hundreds of gulls riding thermals. With the aid of binoculars it was apparent that the gulls were hawking insects along side the swallows. At dusk as the thermals subsided, the insect swarms gathered over the lake followed by the swallows, it was at this time of day that the jaeger began to feed in typical Long-tailed fashion. This is the behavior I observed when I made my initial identification on Wednesday, 22 September, and again on the evening of the IOS field trip.

On their northern Arctic breeding grounds, Long-tailed Jaegers feed heavily on lemmings, but also on insects and small birds such as Lapland Longspurs (Olsen and Larsson 1997). Can the huge fall flights of migrant Tree Swallows and their association with lake habitats be part of the overland Long-tailed Jaeger migration? With a large concentration of prey, one can

expect predators. Peregrine Falcons *(Falco peregrinus)* and Merlins *(F. columbarius)* seem to appear with large concentrations of shorebirds. Parasitic Jaegers are said to follow the tern migration, and I believe the same can be said for the inland records of Pomarine Jaeger *(Stercorarius pomarinus)* and their arrival with large concentrations of Ring-billed Gulls. As more and more records of inland jaegers occur, hopefully a few new patterns will emerge that will help anticipate the arrival of the various jaegers and provide yet another tool for the difficult task of identification (see Bailey 2001).

Keith McMullen and I last observed the Long-tailed Jaeger on Saturday, 2 October 1999. A violent series of thunderstorms occurred later that afternoon and I was unable to locate the bird the following day.

This is actually the second report of Long-tailed Jaeger for Carlyle Lake. The previous fall, Dr. Fernando Segade, Research Assistant Professor, Department of Cell Biology and Physiology, Washington University School of Medicine, convincingly described an adult Long-tailed Jaeger present at Carlyle Lake on 5 September 1998. This record has not been officially reviewed, but if pursued, it would probably result in a valid record. Only two reports of Long-tailed Jaeger for Illinois are listed in the literature; one a decayed bird at Cairo in November 1876, which was not collected nor properly documented, and another, a museum specimen collected in Washington County 21 October 1893, which was recently reviewed by the Illinois Ornithological Society with differing opinions on its identity (see Stotz 2001).

Literature Cited

Bailey, S. D. 2001. Illinois' second confirmed Long- tailed Jaeger with notes on the species identification, behavior, status, and inland migration. Meadowlark 10: 84-92.

Olsen, K.M. and H. Larsson. 1997. Skuas and jaegers. Yale University Press, New Haven. 190 pp.

Stotz, D.F. 2001. Seventh report of the Illinois ornithological records committee. Meadowlark 10: 52-56.

Dan Kassebaum, 308 East B Street, Belleville, Illinois 62220; kdan@htc.net

Illinois' Second Confirmed Long-tailed Jaeger with Notes on the Species' Identification, Behavior, Status, and Inland Migration

by Steven D. Bailey

Following closely on the heels of, and much like Illinois' first confirmed Long-tailed Jaeger *(Stercorarius longicaudus)* sighting in the fall of 1999, Illinois' second Long-tailed record began with the observation of two jaegers. This story begins with Clark Olson's observation of two separate jaegers at Lake Chautauqua in Mason County on 10 September 2000. Unfortunately, Olson did not get close enough looks at either bird for a positive identification. Olson's sighting was unknown to Kevin Richmond and Louise Augustine, who, upon seeing one of the two birds the next day, realized immediately they were looking at another Long-tailed Jaeger, the second for Illinois in two years (K. Richmond pers. comm.). Like last year at Lake Carlyle, two birds were being reported, although unlike last year, there were definitely two birds present; several times both birds were viewed simultaneously, and they were also seen interacting.

One of the birds clearly was a Long-tailed judging by the exceptionally close views over a long time period, due to its habit of walking up and down the cross-dike at the lake each day; the identity of the second jaeger was not that easy. It was originally reported as a Pomarine Jaeger *(S. pomarinus)*, and was observed and thought to be that species by most of downstate Illinois' more experienced birders as well as several birders from Chicagoland. On 19 September 2000, after closer scrutiny, the bird was tentatively identified as a juvenile Parasitic Jaeger *(S. parasiticus)* by one of the original observers, Kevin Richmond, and H. David Bohlen. Frame-filling photos (see Figure 7) confirmed this identification. This occurrence shows the need for continued

documentation of all jaegers from all locations in Illinois.

Given the difficulty in separating juvenile jaegers, especially Long-tailed and Parasitic, Long-taileds are undoubtedly going undetected by birders in Illinois, and as Lee (1989) so aptly shows, even with specimen in hand, this species has repeatedly been misidentified. Like Illinois, many states have documented their first Long-tailed Jaeger just within the last 10 years or less. Many jaeger aficionados are wondering if Long-tailed Jaeger numbers are increasing, or if birders are improving their identification skills. As Leukering (2001) notes, it is time the old dogma, which insisted Parasitic Jaeger was the default jaeger away from the ocean, be rejected. This is certainly the case in Illinois (Bailey in press), as Parasitic is not the most common jaeger away from the Great Lakes, given the numbers of jaeger records definitely identified to species. Long-tailed will certainly be found to be more common both along Lake Michigan and downstate in Illinois and at other "inland" locations.

Daily Routine

The most consistent habit of the Lake Chautauqua Long-tailed Jaeger, observed by almost, if not, everyone of the dozens (more?) of birders who saw the bird, was its daily routine of walking up and down the approximately one-mile strip of gravel road (and parking lot) atop a shallow dike between the north and south sections of the lake. If observers stood still, the bird would more often than not, either walk right by the observer, sometimes as close as three to six feet, or simply fly out and around the person and land back on the dike.

There are narrow strips (roughly five meters wide) of weedy, grassy areas just to the north and south of the road, and the taller vegetation of the dried-up lake bed to the south. All along this strip of road were good numbers of small- to medium-sized grasshoppers and crickets *(Orthoptera sp.)*. The bird was so intent on hunting these insects that it paid little attention to birders watching it. The bird was seen feeding on these insects virtually every day of its stay by most if not all observers, including the author, and hundreds of these insects were likely eaten during its 15-day stay (see Figure 2). The bird ate dead individuals as well, if they were not desiccated or otherwise mostly intact. It "tested" these dead individuals by picking them up with its beak, discarding those that were not "satisfactory." Dennis Oehmke and Kevin Richmond noted the bird would often remove the legs of these insects before swallowing them, likely due to the spiny projections on the lower half of the leg (K. Richmond pers. comm.).

It was rather comical to watch the jaeger as it chased the live grasshoppers and crickets back and forth from one side of the gravel road to the other, and it was actually photographed by D. Johnson in yet another unusual behavior, that of flipping upside down in the air in pursuit of these insects. The bird was also seen by the author, to turn around on a dime and snap up some of the many small, flying insects hovering just off the ground and around the jaeger as it walked down the road. Interestingly, this is not the first time a Long-tailed Jaeger has been noted feeding on grasshoppers during migration at an inland location. Leukering (2001) writes, "If you're watching a juvenile jaeger walking around catching grasshoppers in the weedy fringe of a lake that holds hundreds or thousands of gulls, you are looking at a long-tail." Although this statement was only based on one Colorado bird, both he and I consider this type of feeding behavior significant.

Figure 1. *This portrait, obviously taken under optimal lighting conditions, shows characteristics typical of juvenile Long-tailed Jaeger, including rounded head, large percentage of black in bill, whitish head and nape, darker breast band, whitish upper breast contrasting with the rest of the underbody (including the variable darker barring on flanks and underbelly), the strong and evenly barred white and black undertail coverts, and uniform dark primary tips. Photo taken at Lake Chautauqua (Mason County) 15 September 2000 by Eric Walters.*

Figure 2. *The most distinctive behavioral feature of the 2000 Lake Chautauqua Long-tailed Jaeger — feeding along the cross-dike on a grasshopper. Photo by Peter Weber.*

Illinois and "Inland" Status

Illinois currently has only the two recent records for Long-tailed Jaeger. A more critical examination of the one purported Long-tailed specimen, which was collected near Nashville (Washington County) 21 October 1893, may yet show this to be Illinois' first accepted record, but see Stotz (2001). There is also a purported Long-tailed that was picked up in a decayed state along the shore of the Mississippi River near Cairo in November 1876 (Ridgway 1889); however, given the knowledge of the time, this record will probably always be questionable. There have been a few other reports of Long-taileds in Illinois, some likely correct. Kassebaum (2001) mentions another bird observed at Lake Carlyle in 1998. Kevin Richmond observed an intermediate-type juvenile Long-tailed harassing a Ring-billed Gull *(Larus delawarensis)* at Lake Chautauqua 13 October 1997. Richard Sandburg observed a similar bird at Clinton Lake (DeWitt County) some days later (K. Richmond pers. comm.). Unfortunately, there is no documentation for any of these birds. As this article goes to press, yet another Long-tailed has been reported during late-September 2001, this time an adult at Lake Carlyle.

In an exam of jaeger records published in "North American Birds," and its predecessors "Field Notes" and "American Birds," for all inland locations in the lower 48 states from 1990 through 2000, as well as the use of various state bird monographs, I actually found records for more states for Long-tailed Jaeger (20) than I did for Parasitic (15). This is just the opposite situation from the Great Lakes where Parasitic records far outnumber the other two jaeger species (Sherony and Brock 1997), and the same holds true for near shore coastal areas (Wiley and Lee 1999). Midwestern states other than Illinois that had "inland" Long-tailed Jaeger records from the above sources include Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota (Janssen 1987), Ohio (Peterjohn 1989), and Missouri (Robbins and Easterla 1992). Wisconsin and Iowa also have older records (Robbins 1991, Kent and Dinsmore 1996). Interestingly, two other Midwestern states, Indiana and Michigan, have never had an "inland" Long-tailed Jaeger record (Mumford and Keller 1984, Granlund et al 1994), despite each state having numerous records from the Great Lakes (14 for Indiana, 17 for Michigan).

Unusual "Inland" Records

The above feeding behavior has been noted by others at "inland" locations, and could also be responsible for the many sightings of this species in areas that appear to be inappropriate for a jaeger. An adult bird was found at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and was at first thought to be weak, as it "did relatively little flying, but rested and fed on lake flies," and could be approached "as close as five feet" (Robbins 1991). That bird was also seen scavenging on road-killed rabbit. Ohio has two "inland" records, both involving sick or injured birds that later died. One was found along a rural road near Ashtabula, and the other was found in a residential yard in Parma (Peterjohn 1989). One apparently literally "fell out of the sky" and died 9 September 1993 at Price, Utah (Kingery 1994). One was found sitting on a road in McLean County, North Dakota, 15 October 1991 (Berkey 1992). One juvenile was picked up alive along the highway near Ash Fork, Arizona, 28 August 1996 (Benesh and Rosenberg 1997). A dead Long-tailed Jaeger was found along a road near Plymouth, Wisconsin 6 September 1996 "where it had been seen for several days feeding with Ring-billed Gulls on farm fields prior to its demise" (Tessen 1997). Another was found dead in Ponderosa Pine Forest, north of Lupton, Arizona 18 September 1992 (Rosenberg and Stejskal 1993).

Perhaps the most unusual record is of an adult Long-tailed that was shot (then captured alive, later becoming a specimen) while flying with pigeons on a farm in a rural area near Lone Tree, Iowa on 15 June 1906 (Kent and Dinsmore 1996). However, almost as unusual may be the TV tower mortality record at Raleigh, North Carolina, (well inland from the coast) 25 August, 1960 (Lee 1989). There is also an "inland" record for Minnesota of a specimen collected on 1 July 1898 at Warren, which as far as I can tell, is farther than 30 miles from any significant body of water (Janssen 1987). In addition, the one Illinois specimen purported to be this species (but see Stotz 2001), was also found dead at a location (near Nashville), what would have been a considerable distance from any significant body of water at that time. As you can see in the above records, the Long-tailed Jaeger not only has a preponderance for turning up at unusual locations, but also has been found in a weakened state or already dead on several occasions. Of 15 records of dead jaegers retrieved from the Great Lakes region, 10 were Long-tailed, suggesting that either this species of jaeger arrives in poorer condition than the other two species or it is being significantly undercounted by observers (Sherony and Brock 1997). This species' different feeding strategies and prey selection (as compared with other jaegers) may play an important role in if and how it is able to complete an overland or "inland" migration route to the Atlantic or Gulf of Mexico. This is especially true given the very degraded nature of the Great Lakes (Ashworth 1986), along which most Long-taileds are likely funneled.

This species' tendency to appear in open areas, away from any body of water has been noted elsewhere as in McGeehan's (1995) statement concerning European (British Isles?) Long-taileds, which "turn up on

golf courses and fields." He continues that these aspects of the species' migration and lifestyle are indeed, relevant to their identification, and that a "personality" starts to form, quite different from Arctic Skua (i.e. Parasitic Jaeger), with implications for identification on at least behavioral grounds." McGeehan also specifically mentions the species "kittiwake-like" appearance in flight. He describes the species' "combination of stall, swoop and drop to the surface ... with the bird no sooner having landed, then it is off again." This is the exact behavior noted by the author on the 1999 Carlyle Lake bird as it followed our boat. I find no mention of such behavioral traits specifically attributable to either Parasitic or Pomarine Jaeger, and such behaviors likely rarely if ever occur in these species. In fact, Olsen and Larsson (1997) state that "juveniles (Long-tailed) are often recorded feeding on worms and smaller animals on newly ploughed [sic] fields in autumn, a habit unknown for Arctic Skua (Parasitic)." They also mention Long-taileds regularly hover, catching insects or fish by direct hunting, characteristics exhibited by both of Illinois' accepted Long-tailed Jaegers. Most studies on jaegers have been conducted on the breeding grounds, or involve jaegers in constant, direct flight in coastal or oceanic areas. However, a few behavioral traits noted in such areas show the species' more diverse behavioral traits as compared to the other two species of jaeger.

Plumage Characteristics

A few points should be made as to why the Chautauqua bird is indeed a Long-tailed Jaeger. The chart below, along with accompanying photos, should be helpful for birders trying to separate Parasitic from Long-tailed. A variety of excellent sources on juvenile jaeger identification were used to prepare the chart, including Mather (1981), Cramp and Simmons (1983), Olsen and Christensen (1984), Olsen and Jonsson (1989), Kaufman (1990), Jonsson (1992), McGeehan (1995), Olsen and Larsson (1997), Sherony and Brock (1997), Wiley and Lee (1998, 1999), and Sibley (2000).

These plumage traits disregard the darkest forms of each species (10 percent or less of all birds). Many of these traits may only be visible on birds seen at close range — and/or perched birds.

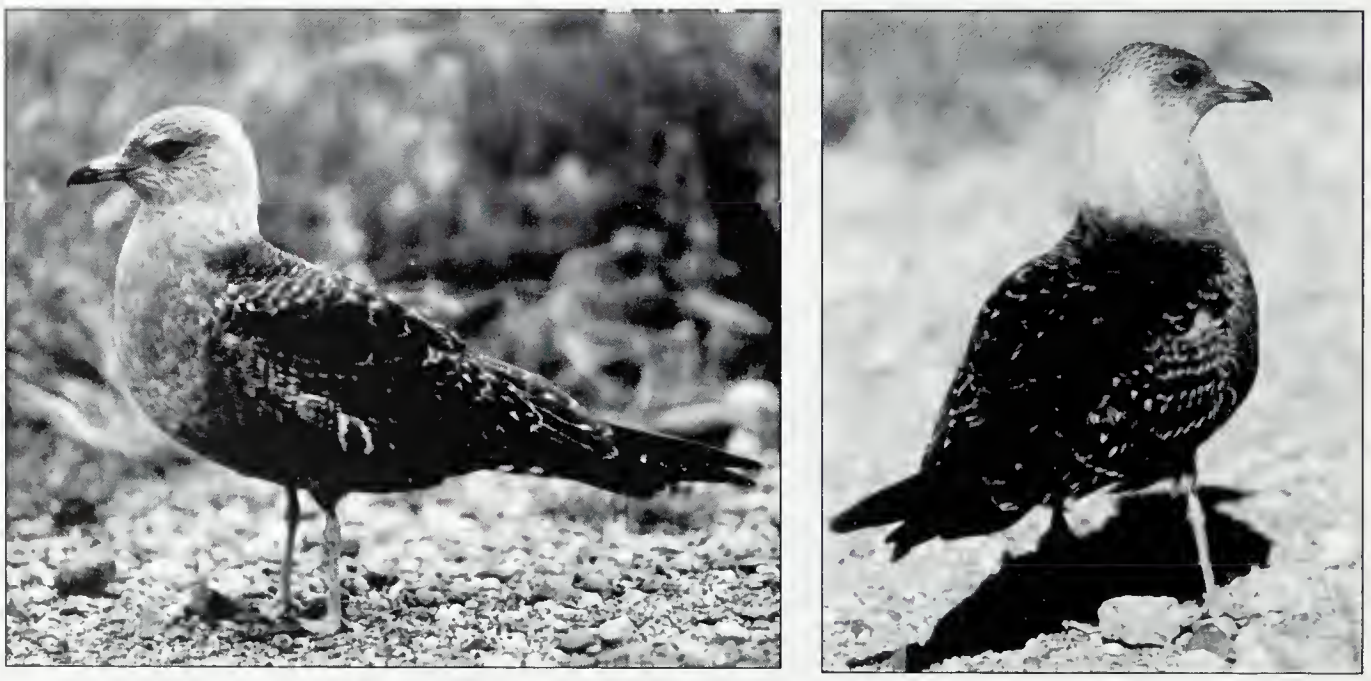
The 1999 and 2000 Long-tailed Jaegers in Illinois provided not only a unique opportunity to observe a

Characteristic	Parasitic	Long-Tailed
General coloration	Warm brown, usually tinged with rust or orangish; may appear darker especially depending on lighting conditions	Always a cold tinge, never rusty tinge; may vary from ashy gray to blackish-brown depending on lighting conditions.
Head color	Brown to reddish-brown; always shows some distinct streaking even on palest individuals	Grayish to whitish; streaking usually confined to crown and forehead
Head appearance	More "flattened" appearance; often pointed toward back of head	Rounded
Nape	Often paler than the rest of the head (but streaked), contrasting with overall dark head (except palest individuals).	Pale with little or no streaking often contrasting, especially with top of head and mantle.
Bill	Black nail on tip of bill, ~25 to 30 percent of the bill; proportionally longer, slimmer bill	Black nail on tip of bill, ~ 40 to 50 percent of the bill; proportionally shorter, thicker bill
Belly/breast band	No contrast or breast band between upper breast and belly	Pale, un-streaked upper belly with darker breast band in between breast and lower belly
Outer primary shafts, dorsal surface	3 to 8 (very rarely 2); all-white	2 (very rarely 3 to 4); all-white
Primary tips	Pale fringes (usually noticed only on perched birds); sometimes forming distinct crescents	Mainly all dark (usually noticed only on perched birds)
Secondary and upperwing covert contrast	In flight, little contrast between secondaries and upperwing coverts	In flight, dark secondaries contrast sharply with remainder of wing, especially upperwing coverts
Base of wings	Wider than Long-tailed with more rounded wing tip	More narrow than Parasitic, with a more pointed wing tip
Uppertail coverts	Usually with little or no contrast with rest of dorsal surface; barring more indistinct, often forming a jumbled or wavy pattern of black and dirty white	Usually in sharp contrast to darker back and tail; barring usually very bold, with neat (i.e., forming) straight black and white lines
Central tail feathers	Sharp or pointed; short extension	Blunt or rounded; usually extending farther than Parasitic

rare species at an unusually close range, but they also gave downstate birders (as well as those Chicagoland birders who came to see the jaegers) a chance to acquaint themselves with some of the more subtle and often confusing plumage characteristics of this difficult group of birds. Such fine details of plumage and other field marks are often not possible on the mostly "fly-by" jaeger observations to be had on Lake Michigan. With some of the fine photos and video taken of these birds, especially of the 2000 Lake Chautauqua Long-tailed and Parasitic Jaegers, it is now easy to understand how it was possible for various observers to think there were two separate jaegers involved in the 1999 Carlyle sighting. In fact, in discussions on IBET (Illinois' birding list serve) some disputes arose not only concerning the Lake Chautauqua "Pomasitic" jaeger that was later identified as a Parasitic, but also over the actual colors of the Long-tailed there. Eric Walters' statements concerning the phenomenon of how light and other variables may affect a bird's description (and thus an observer's documentation and identification), are especially pertinent. In dispute of one observer's description of the 2000 Lake Chautauqua Long-tailed Jaeger as having a "cold, gray plumage," Walters stated, "I would like to dispute this. When I was there under a clear blue sky at about 2:30 p.m. on Friday, I saw no gray at all anywhere on the bird. I knew it was supposed to have it, and I looked hard from very close range, but there was none at all. This, no doubt, was a function of the overhead bright sun making the gray color a much more bleached-out whitish color. Later, closer to 5 p.m., when the sun was starting to set, the colors of this bird changed, and it seemed like the element of gray coloration was coming in. This just shows how different optics under different lighting conditions, on different days, from different viewing angles and different distances, can cause bird descriptions and documentation to be very different." This phenomenon was the likely reason why the Lake Carlyle bird was being described as two separate jaegers, one gray and one dark bird, depending on what time of day observers were viewing it and under what lighting conditions (see Kassebaum 2001). Dennis Oehmke's photos in Figures 3 and 4 illustrate Walters' points very well.

With this said, the various plumage characteristics, which were noted by observers and which can be seen in the various photographs in this paper, provided for a fairly straightforward identification of the 2000 Lake Chautauqua Long-tailed. With all I have seen and read, I would judge the 2000 Lake Chautauqua Long-tailed Jaeger to have been an intermediate morph juvenile, grading toward the light end of that color morph. Although most field guides give a rendition of a light or pale morph, intermediate morph, and dark morph for this and the other two jaeger species, individuals will range in a gradation or "sliding-scale" between all of these color forms (Olsen and Larsson 1997). The Lake Chautauqua bird seemed much paler about the head, nape, and belly than most photos and renditions of intermediate morph, but was not nearly as pale as the renditions of birds noted as pale morph in various field guides. For comparative photographs, see Mactavish (1995), a slightly darker bird on page 15, and Olsen and Larsson (1997), a slightly lighter bird in Figure 121 on page 157.

The most succinct reason this bird was a Long-tailed Jaeger can be found in a statement by D. Sibley (see Sherony and Brock 1997). Sibley stated "Parasitics rarely show extremely pale heads or underparts; consequently, any juvenile with a pale head or belly is a prime Long-tailed candidate. Juvenile Long-taileds with smooth, gray breasts and contrasting white bellies are distinctive," i.e., diagnostic. The only caveat to that statement is "any juvenile." See Figure 5 for comments



Figures 3 and 4. *On these two photos, taken one week apart, notice how the bird in Figure 3 appears to have an overall cold, grayish tint to the plumage, while the bird in Figure 4 appears to be very dark, almost blackish brown, except for the nape and sides of head. Figure 3 was taken under overcast conditions on 20 September 2000, while Figure 4 was taken in direct, afternoon sun. Dennis Oehmke took both of these photos of the 2000 Long-tailed Jaeger at Lake Chautauqua.*

on why the 2000 Long-tailed Jaeger is a juvenile. The pale-tipped feather edges to the mantle (upper back), easily seen in Figures 1 and 3, also indicate this individual is a juvenile. One other juvenile plumage trait that is often not obvious or even possible to see (especially on distant flybys on Lake Michigan) is the shape and length of the extension of the central tail feathers. In general, juvenile Long-tailed has somewhat blunt-tipped central tail feathers. Juvenile Parasitic tail feathers are usually sharply pointed. If you are close enough to see the central tail feather feature, considering whether it's a Pomarine is not necessary, since other more prominent features such as size, etc. will help identify the bird. However, note that a juvenile Pom has very short extensions of its central tail feathers. Interestingly, with the extremely close views to be had of the 2000 Lake Chautauqua Long-tailed Jaeger, the central tail feather was generally not noticed by many observers. Richmond (pers. comm.) noted he was never able to get a good look at this feature "in real life." However, when he stop-actioned some of his video footage, the "finger-like central projections ... were quite noticeable." Interestingly, Sherony and Brock (1997) relayed an incident where "a low-flying juvenile jaeger swooped directly over a group of 30 birders, all of whom made a concerted effort to discern the shape of rectrix 1 (central tail feathers). A post-sighting survey revealed that interpretations of rectrix 1 shape ranged from blunt-ended to pencil-sharp." This is just another example of why any jaeger (including Parasitics on Lake Michigan) should be closely scrutinized, documented, and photographed, if possible.

Behavioral Traits

One aspect of jaeger identification in general and Long-tailed, in particular, has to do with various behavioral traits. All three species of jaegers found in Illinois practice the behavior known as kleptoparasitism, or the stealing of food from other birds. In jaegers, that usually means stealing fish from gulls and terns, with the Parasitic possibly using this means of piracy the most, and with the most skill, compared with the other two species, especially during the breeding season when both Long-tailed and Pomarine Jaegers feed extensively on lemmings (Andersson 1973, 1976), and may have less need to steal other birds' meals. However Long-tailed behavior is similar to Parasitic's in the summer in that it seems to take a wider variety of food including many insects, birds, bird eggs, and even berries (Cramp and Simmons 1983, Wiley and Lee 1998, 1999). Away from the breeding grounds, the Long-tailed Jaeger is less piratical than the other skuas (Bell 1965).

Experts agree that almost nothing is known about the Long-tailed's behavior, including feeding habits,

Figure 5. *This photo of the 2000 Lake Chautauqua Long-tailed Jaeger shows the bright white and black barring on the rump, contrasting with the dark tail and lower back. Parasitic would not show such obvious contrast. Also note the strong barring on the ventral surface of the left wing (aging the bird as a juvenile), and the two, bright-white outer primary feather shafts, virtually diagnostic to Long-tailed Jaeger. Photo taken 15 September 2000 by Eric Walters.*

once it leaves its breeding grounds (Wiley and Lee 1998). The lack of knowledge may be due to the species' relative rarity, especially at inland migratory locations, as well as its highly pelagic nature during migration and winter (Murphy 1936, Olsen and Larsson 1997, Wiley and Lee 1998). Most accounts of migratory and winter behavior are widely scattered and anecdotal, if even present, in most of the literature. Here I attempt to bring together some of the anecdotal accounts of Illinois' two confirmed Long-tailed Jaegers and compare them with other "inland" accounts.

I was lucky enough to observe both of Illinois' two Long-tailed Jaegers, the 1999 bird once and the 2000 bird on three different occasions. One behavioral trait that stood out in my observations, and also in my later literature search for other inland sightings of this species, was the Long-tailed's obvious opportunistic (preferential?) use of insects as a food source. Dan Kassebaum (2001) was the first to make mention of the Carlyle Lake bird feeding extensively on midges, and in his documentation of the bird, described watching the jaeger the first evening he discovered it feeding on insects for most, if not all of the two hours it was observed.

A few days later, Kassebaum, I, and several others watched the same bird feeding low over the lake surface, apparently on swarms of midges, with thousands of swallows and hundreds of gulls at dusk. In addition, while following this jaeger for about an hour from two pontoon boats, about 15 to 20 Illinois Ornithological Society members constantly watched the bird, sometimes as close as 10 to 15 feet away. At one point, the jaeger actually began following the boat, apparently flocking (with no apparent antagonism) with a small

group of Ring-billed Gulls. At one point the jaeger hovered briefly just above the water, then dropped its feet and pattered in the wake before reaching down to quickly grab a small, stunned gizzard shad, swallowing it whole. The jaeger lit in the water ever so briefly, then resumed following in the wake with the gulls. This "pitter-patter" behavior of the feet, reminiscent of a storm-petrel, while the bird hovers low over the water's surface picking small prey out of the water, was noted by Kevin Richmond while observing the Lake Chautauqua bird on several different dates, and was captured by him on video (pers. comm.).

McGeehan (1995) relates that during winter, this species "is primarily a hovering/dip-feeding species. . . looking for food on the surface or in the wake of trowlers [sic]." Veit (1985) stated that Long-tailed Jaegers "in migration in Newfoundland behaved similarly and fed among kittiwakes and terns, by swooping, foot pattering and picking items off the sea." Olsen and Larsson (1997) also mention that Long-taileds regularly "dip-feed."

Other more seemingly jaeger-like behavior as well as other interesting observations concerning the Lake Chautauqua Long-tailed Jaeger include the following notations taken from personal communication with Kevin Richmond, a few narratives gleaned from IBET (Illinois' birding list serve), and the author's own observations.

- 11 September – Parasitic harasses /chases Long-tailed in flight. Other than walking along the cross-dike, the Long-tailed flew low over the open water of the lake just to the north of the dike; but rarely landed. It also hovered low with its feet in the water, picking something off the water's surface. It was also noted bathing in the evening and preening for some time (K. Richmond).
- 14 September - Long-tailed Jaeger knocked a Black Tern *(Chlidonias niger)* into the water in the evening. The tern was screaming and when it was able to take off from the water's surface, it flew low over to the shoreline where it hid until the jaeger had flown off. Once the "coast was clear" it flew off in the opposite direction of the jaeger (K. Richmond).
- 16 September - The jaeger was flushed off of the cross-dike by a Merlin. The Merlin chased after it briefly (K. Richmond).
- 17 September - Engaged in an aerial dogfight with a pair of Peregrine Falcons (J. Murphy).
  - Long-tailed chases two different Ring-billed Gulls (K. Richmond).
  - Bird goes to roost onto a sandbar near the dike (L. Augustine et al).
- 18 September - Seemed to become more active after the moon came up in the evening. Bird observed bathing and preening for approximately one-half hour. While bathing in flight while hovering, bird dipped most of the lower half of its body into the water while flapping its wings. It flew around for a short time, occasionally doing a wing-quiver, a very rapid shaking of the wings, in an apparent attempt to rid its wings of water (S. Bailey et al).
- 20 September - Fed with swallows low over the water (just north of the cross-dike) in a pouring rain, while engaged in "moth-like" flight (P. Weber).

Other observers also noted the bird preening and bathing as well as being chased by the Parasitic Jaeger. Only on occasion did anyone notice the Long-tailed chasing the Parasitic. An interesting sidebar to these interactions include the following account by Richmond noted on several dates. "The Parasitic Jaeger liked to try to sit next to the Long-tailed Jaeger out in the water. The Parasitic would slowly sidle up next to the Long-tailed very innocently only to invariably attack it. The Parasitic chased the Long-tailed on a number of occasions. Never once did I ever see the Parasitic catch the Long-tailed. The Long-tailed was able to outmaneuver it every time. On several evenings, both jaegers were seen making extended, long (at times soaring) flights together. When the Parasitic would behave and not try to attack the Long-tailed, [the Long-tailed] would tolerate [the Parasitic's] company. It was always the Parasitic seeking out the company of the Long-tailed, except for one occasion."

Although at least some inland jaegers may be undernourished (see under Unusual "inland" records), all jaegers this author has observed in Illinois seem to

Figure 6. *Although a seemingly poor photo in some respects, this photo of the 2000 Lake Chautauqua Long-tailed Jaeger shows the characteristic strong contrast between the dark secondaries and the much lighter upperwing coverts, distinctive to Long-tailed Jaeger. The strong underwing barring and two prominent all-white outer primary shafts are also very noticeable. Notice how the bright light makes the dirty-white/light brownish shafts of the remaining primaries appear much lighter than they actually are. Photo taken 15 September 2000 by Eric Walters.*

have been healthy and exhibiting normal behavior. While it may be true that the behavior exhibited by Illinois' Long-tailed Jaegers may be different than behaviors observed by some "experienced pelagic birders" (see D. Sibley in Sherony and Brock 1997), I would suggest that many of the interesting behaviors noted in the Illinois (and Colorado) Long-taileds are normal for this species, as they have been described by others on both the breeding and wintering grounds (see above). In fact, should such behavior be noted by observers of migrant jaegers, it should be used along with other clues to identification, such as timing and plumage, to evaluate any purported sighting of a Long-tailed. Just as the undulating flight of a small bird 100 yards away over a thistle-covered field can identify that species as an American Goldfinch for the experienced birder even without a hint of plumage, so should the "pitter-patter" flight or the frequent feeding on grasshoppers and/or midges along with a few key plumage traits, be a sign that one is likely observing a Long-tailed Jaeger. I would disagree with D. Sibley (in Sherony and Brock 1997) who stated birders would be better off ignoring shape and flight style entirely for separating jaeger species. Although shape and flight style alone may not be diagnostic when identifying jaegers, they may likely be used in conjunction with other characters, including plumage, to determine species. Olsen and Jonsson (1989) discuss the four main flight styles of jaegers: migration, piratical, soaring, and tail-wind. Each of the three smaller jaegers (Pomarine, Parasitic, and Long-tailed) have various nuances in their flight styles related to structure (wing shape, body weight, etc.), weather (especially wind during migration), and other traits such as feeding habits, etc. Such flight styles, combined with other characteristics, should be noted when observing juvenile jaegers.

Food

Again, there is little in the literature concerning the prey of this species taken on migration. However, food obtained at other seasons gives a clue to what might be taken while migrating. Concerning feeding habits, Andersson (1971) showed through both direct observation and pellet analysis, the Long-tailed is more "flexible and opportunistic, taking a wide range of foods, which require different feeding methods," compared with the other two jaeger species. In his list of prey taken on the breeding grounds, there were at least two species of voles, shrews, and birds, most of which were juveniles. Beetles, crane flies, and "house" flies were the most common insects captured, and even berries (crowberries and cloudberries) were taken. Bell (1965) also speaking of jaegers on their breeding grounds, added shorebird species including turnstones *(Arenaria sp.)* and Purple Sandpipers *(Calidris maritima)* to the list as well as crustacea, and also mentions that "insects are caught in straight pursuit or by soaring." He also states the Long-tailed Jaeger is less piratical than the other jaegers, and feeds by hovering (much like terns, *[Chlidonias sp.]*), both away from the breeding grounds and during the breeding season when they hover when seeking lemmings. Wiley and Lee (1998) liken this hovering flight to a kestrel, and Andersson (1973) states that Long-taileds "weighing less than half as much as the Pomarine Jaeger should therefore be better adapted for hovering." Murphy (1936), relating observations by Alexander Wetmore, speaks of a Long-tailed that "dropped lightly to the beach near the water mark to pick up a few beetles that had drifted ashore after the storm." Cramp and Simmons (1983) state that little data exist on food (or behavior) outside of the breeding season, but do list offal, carrion, and rubbish for the non-breeding season. They also mention that during the breeding season these birds use "agile and graceful flight, while soaring to hawk for insects," and specifically mention these birds picking up cranefly *(Tipulidae sp.)* larvae, dead midges *(Chironomidae sp.)* washed up at edges of water, spiders *(Arachnida sp.)*, flies *(Diptera sp.)*, bees *(Hymenoptera sp.)*, and butterflies and moths *(Lepidoptera sp.)*. Interestingly, stomachs of non-breeding birds (on the breeding grounds) contained a much higher percentage of insects (62% to 0%) compared with breeding birds (Maher 1974).

Figure 7. *Notice the overall dark-brown coloration of this bird, with little or no reddish tinge to the feathers (seen in color photo). This characteristic likely contributed to the confusion of this Parasitic Jaeger with its initial identification as a Pomarine Jaeger. Notice the rather petite bill, lacking an obvious gonydeal angle that would be present in Pomarine. Also, note the proportionally, considerably less amount of black on the bill, mainly confined to the tip. Other characters separating this bird from Long-tailed Jaeger (and Pomarine) are the more flattened or peaked head shape, the strong and heavy amount of streaking on the nape, and the strong amount of barring from the upper breast to the lower belly. Note a distinct light spot at the base of the upper mandible. Dennis Oehmke took this photo 20 September 2000 of the Lake Chautauqua Parasitic Jaeger.*

Acknowledgments

I would like to express my thanks to the many individuals who helped make this article possible. Thanks go to those "brave" enough to make the initial identifications of Illinois' first two Long-tailed Jaegers, Dan Kassebaum (1999 bird) and Kevin Richmond and Louise Augustine (2000 bird). Kevin was also especially helpful in providing me with specific behavioral and plumage notes. Comments gleaned from IBET (Illinois' birding list serve) were also beneficial in a number of ways. Thanks go to Sue Friscia (list serve owner) and those who commented on the Long-tailed Jaeger discussions. Michael Retter should also be congratulated on his critical observations of each jaeger, especially the 1999 bird, which eventually lead to its acceptance as the state's first Long-tailed Jaeger record. Special thanks go to those who made the article much more instructive and aesthetically pleasing by providing their excellent photographs. They include Dennis Oehmke, Eric Walters, and Peter Weber. Finally, my paper benefitted substantially from the patience and editing skills provided by Sheryl De Vore.

Figure 8. *Obvious in this flight photo of the 2000 Lake Chautauqua Parasitic Jaeger is the large amount of brown on the breast and belly, little contrast between secondaries and upper wing coverts (even weaker in Pomarine, much stronger in Long-tailed), at least three to four all-white outer primary shafts, and sharply pointed central tail feathers, which would appear more rounded in the other two jaeger species. Dennis Oehmke took this photo 13 September 2000.*

Literature Cited

Andersson, M. 1973. Behaviour of the Pomarine Skua with comparative remarks on Stercorarinae. Ornis Scandinavica 4:1-16.

_____, 1976. Population ecology of the Long-tailed Skua *(Stercorarius longicaudus)*. Ornis Scandinavica 2:35-53.

Ashworth, W. 1986. The late, great lakes. Alfred A. Knopf, New York. 274 pp.

Bailey, S.D. In press. The history and status of jaeger migration in Illinois. Meadowlark 10 (4).

Bell, D.G. 1965. Studies of less familiar birds. 133. Long-tailed skua. British Birds 58:139-145.

Benesh, C.D. and G.H. Rosenberg. 1997. Southwest Region: Arizona. Field Notes 51:96.

Cramp, S., and K.E.L. Simmons. 1983. The birds of the Western Palearctic. Vol. III. Oxford University Press, New York. 913 pp.

Granlund, J., G.A. McPeek, and R. J. Adams Jr. 1994. The birds of Michigan. Indiana University Press, Bloomington. 358 pp.

Janssen, R.B. Birds in Minnesota. 1987. University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis. 352 pp.

Jonsson, L. 1992. Birds of Europe with North Africa and the Middle East. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ.

Kassebaum, D. 2001. Illinois' first confirmed Long-tailed Jaeger *(Stercorarius Longicaudus)*. Meadowlark 10:80-83.

Kaufman, K. 1990. A field guide to advanced birding. Houghton-Mifflin Co, Boston. 299 pp.

Kent, T.H., and J.J. Dinsmore. 1996. Birds in Iowa. Self-published. Iowa City. 391 pp.

Lee, D.S. 1989. Jaegers and skuas in the western North Atlantic: some historical misconceptions. American Birds 43:18-20.

Leukering, T. 2001. Changing seasons, Fall 2000. North American Birds 55:15.

Mactavish, B. 1995. Atlantic Provinces Region. Field Notes 49:15.

Maher, W.J. 1974. Ecology of Pomarine, Parasitic and Long-tailed Jaegers in northern Alaska. Pacific Coast Avifauna 37.

Mather, J.R. 1981. Mystery photographs: juvenile Long-tailed Skua. British Birds 74:257-259.

Murphy, R.C. 1936. Oceanic Birds of South America Vol 2. American Museum of Natural History, New York. 1245 pp.

McGeehan, A. 1995. Telling tails. Birdwatching 37:23-29.

Mumford, R.E., and C.E. Keller. 1984. The birds of Indiana. Indiana University Press, Bloomington. 376 pp.

Olsen, K.M., and S. Christensen. 1984. Field identification of juvenile skuas. British Birds 77:448-450.

_____, and L. Jonsson. 1989. Field identification of the smaller skuas. British Birds 82:143-176.

_____, and H. Larsson. 1997. Skuas and jaegers. Yale University Press, New Haven. 190 pp.

Peterjohn, B.G. 1989. The birds of Ohio. Indiana University Press, Bloomington. 237 pp.

Ridgway, R. 1889. The ornithology of Illinois. Part 1, Vol. 1. State Laboratory of Natural History, Springfield, IL. 522 pp.

Robbins, M.B., and D.A. Easterla. 1992. Birds of Missouri. University of Missouri Press, Columbia. 399 pp.

Robbins, S.D., Jr. 1991. Wisconsin birdlife. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison. 702 pp.

Rosenberg, G.H., and D. Stejskal. 1993. Southwest Region: Arizona. American Birds 47:128.

Sherony, D.F., and K.J. Brock. 1997. Jaeger migration on the Great Lakes. Birding 29: 372-385.

Sibley, D.A. 2000. The Sibley guide to birds. Alfred A. Knopf, New York. 544 pp.

Stotz, D.F. 2001. Seventh report of the Illinois ornithological records committee. Meadowlark 10:52-58.

Tessen, D.D. 1997. Western Great Lakes Region. Field Notes 51:59.

Veit, R.R. 1985. Long-tailed jaegers wintering along the Falkland Current. American Birds 39:873-878.

Wiley, R.H., and D.S. Lee. 1998. Long-tailed Jaeger *(Stercorarius longicaudus)*. In The Birds of North America, No. 365 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). The Birds of North America, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa.

_____, and _____. 1999. Parasitic Jaeger *(Stercorarius parasiticus)*. In The Birds of North America, No. 445 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). The Birds of North America, Inc. Philadelphia, Pa.

Steven D. Bailey, CTAP Ornithologist, Illinois Natural History Survey, 607 E. Peabody, Champaign, Illinois 61820; sdbailey@mail.inhs.uiuc.edu

The Status of Gray Partridge in Illinois: An Update

by Daniel Williams

On 23 December 2000, nine Gray Partridges *(Perdix perdix)* appeared at a feeder east of Durand, Winnebago County, Illinois. The flock came daily until 30 December 2000, when they were last seen. From 15 December until the end of the month, heavy snows had accumulated in the region, drifting along the hedgerows. Since my previous winter sighting of this species was along the fence line bordering the north side of the same property, I was pleased to learn the Gray Partridge was still to be found here. My last sighting was more than three years earlier, when I found a hen and four chicks in a mowed alfalfa field just east of Pecatonica in Winnebago County. No other sightings of this species were reported in Winnebago County in the intervening time.

Three of nine Gray Patridge seen at a feeder 28 December 2000 near Baker and Wheeler roads in Durand, Illinois, Winnebago County. Photo by Paulette Matthews.

Also known as Hungarian, European, or Bohemian Partridge in the United States, or simply, "the Partridge" in Europe, the Gray Partridge was introduced into the United States in the late 18th and early 19th century (Terres 1991). The first releases were made along the east coast, but were largely unsuccessful, despite the prevalence, at that time, of coastal savanna and prairie. Bent (1932) described these early introductions as having "many dismal failures in ... places less congenial to it." Phillips (1928) wrote that these eastern birds "eventually vanished between 1915 and 1920." An excellent discussion of the history of the introduction of the species is found in Phillips (1928).

Introductions into the prairies of the upper Great Plains, and particularly into central Canada, around Edmonton and Calgary, were successful beyond expectation. Similar successes occurred in eastern Montana and Wyoming, the Dakotas, and western Minnesota. These areas remain the stronghold of the species. There are several patches in the northeastern U.S., both on the northern border of New York and southern Quebec, and also the Canadian maritimes, particularly Nova Scotia. The northwestern Illinois flock is on the far eastern edge of the Midwest group of birds. See Carroll (1993).

Gray Partridges were introduced into Illinois from 1906 to 1927, and again in 1970, when as many as 12,000 were released (Farris 1970), with the highest concentrations in DeKalb and Lee counties (Bohlen 1989). The species prefers areas of dry grasslands. Farris suspected that the number of birds would remain low because of the high summer temperatures and volume of rainfall. This prognosis is not surprising, given the history recorded by Phillips in 1928 and summarized by Bent four years later, as well as the actual experience with populations as observed in the intervening time.

In Europe, the Gray Partridge prefers cool, mid-latitude lowlands, with "continuous grass or herbage, not appreciably higher than its head, flanked or interspersed with some taller and denser cover such as hedgerows, woodland verges, or rough herbage and scrub affording concealment and nest-sites" (Cramp 1980). Cramp wrote: the Gray Partridge "tolerates with difficulty high humidity and high rainfall, especially in breeding season ...." Consequently, it is not surprising that the species has taken hold in those parts of North America most closely resembling the climatic and vegetative conditions of its old world habitat, and why the Illinois climate and habitat are marginal for this species, making its hold here tenuous at best.

Because the number of Ring-necked Pheasants has also shown a local decline as assessed on spring and Christmas count reports, and since Illinois is on the edge of the range, I became curious about how Gray Partridge might be faring in other parts of northwestern Illinois. Bohlen (1989) reported the high CBC report of Gray Partridge was 71 in Ogle County in 1983, although Johnson's (1997) summary of high CBC counts for each species places the honor on Freeport, Stephenson County, with 41 in 1984. Not surprisingly, given the large number of introduced birds in 1970, Bohlen also reported that small numbers were tallied on

every spring bird count, and the species was also counted on each CBC between 1976 and 1985, except 1980. Since that time, however, the species has apparently suffered the decline that all the authors predicted.

To get an overview of the luck other birders have had with *Perdix*, I surveyed *Meadowlark* from Vol. 1, #1 to the most recent issue, tabulating every seasonal report of the species, including both spring and CBC results. Gray Partridge still call northwest Illinois their home, but fewer of them appear to be living here. No recent reports have been received from a county south of LaSalle or Kendall. When I first started birding in the mid-1970s, Kane County was the place where Chicagoland birders went to look for Gray Partridge, but, over the past ten years, the only report I was able to locate was a late summer report of a female with 5 young in August 1999 (Meadowlark 9:30).

On CBCs, Gray Partridge have been reported only 3 times since 1991, with the last report being from the Van Patten CBC (Lee/Whiteside counties), with a total of 15 in 1995/96. That same year, another 24 were reported, but from the Iowa side of counts along the Mississippi River. That year ended a string of 3 years when the species was recorded on the Van Patten count. The count also found 2 in 1993-94 and 7 in 1994-95.

The last Rockford (Winnebago County) CBC report of Gray Partridge was 2 birds in 1994-95. In that same year, the Illini CBC (LaSalle County) tallied 15, tied for highest with Van Patten for the past decade. Historical CBC data from the Rockford count show that the most encounters took place in the 1960s, with a high of 24 in 1966, before the major reintroduction of 1970, and Rockford recorded the species 8 times from 1960 to 1969, while finding them only 5 times in the 1970s.

Gray Partridge were reported more frequently in spring, but in very low numbers. The high spring count for the species since 1990 was 25 birds in 7 counties, with 14 in Lee in 1992. Also in 1992, a nest with 13 eggs was found in Lee County on May 30 (Meadowlark 2:28). The last report was in 2000, when only 2 were reported for the entire state, both in DeKalb. The year 1999 had 2, both in Whiteside, while 1998 held 7, in 3 counties, the high being Lee, with 4. The same number of individuals was found in 1997, also in 3 counties, with 4 in Stephenson. The only other spring count in which over 10 birds were found in the state was in 1996, when 15 birds were located in 5 counties, with honors going to DeKalb with 6.

In a posting to IBET (Illinois Birders Exchanging Thought list serve) in January 1997, Ron Flemal reported that DeKalb County was still a good spot to search for the species, but patience and caution were necessary. Flemal suggested that the best way to find the birds was to get permission to walk grassy fields. Alternatively, he recommended driving slowly down rural roads that have grassy ditches or fence lines where the birds might be hiding or feeding, with early morning or evening hours being the best. He said searching in winter, when the fields are bare, improves the chances. A cover of snow also makes the birds more visible. Flemal suggested driving roads bounded by IL 38 on the north, Waterman Road on the west, US 30 on the south, and the Kane-DeKalb line on the east, beginning at Afton Forest Preserve, on Crego Road, 1.5 miles south of Perry Road, and to spiral outward from there. He also recommended the fields below and to the southwest of the dam in Shabbona Lake State Park. In 1996, Flemal encountered Gray Partridge 7 times. On the downside, he confirmed the DeKalb CBC had not recorded partridge recently.

If birders want to maximize their chances to see this species, a trip to the grasslands of eastern Montana and Wyoming, or western North and South Dakota may be warranted. Alternately, they seemed to be running around in plain view along the roadway and in the back yard of homes near the World Center for Birds of Prey outside of Boise, Idaho when I visited there in 1997. If finding the partridge in Illinois is your goal, the best strategy may be to drive around DeKalb County in the winter, after a heavy snow, or join the Van Patten CBC. Patient, diligent walking of hedgerows along farm fields may also increase the chances of finding the species, since Gray Partridge don't always come out to the road for easy viewing. Given the paucity of reports to the seasonal compilers, either this species is not being seen very often, observers are not sending in their records, or observers need to search more on foot and not just from their vehicles. The lack of reports on the CBC and spring counts is probably telling the real story.

Literature cited

Bent, A.C. 1932. Life histories of North American gallinaceous birds. Dover Press, Washington D. C. 490 pp.

Bohlen, H.D. 1989. The Birds of Illinois. Indiana University Press, Bloomington, IN. 221 pp.

Carroll, J.P. 1993. Gray Partridges *(Perdix perdix)*. In The Birds of North America, No. 58 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). Philadelphia: The Academy of Natural Sciences; Washington, D.C.: The American Ornithologists' Union.

Cramp, S. et al. 1980. Handbook of the birds of Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, Vol. II. Oxford Press. London. 695 pp.

Farris, A. L. 1970. Distribution and abundance of the Gray Partridge in Illinois. Transactions of the Illinois State Academy of Science. 63:240-245.

Johnson, D. 1997. The Illinois 1996 Christmas bird count. Meadowlark 6:102.

Phillips, John C. 1928. Wild birds introduced or transplanted in North America. U.S. Dept. Agriculture Tech. Bulletin 61. 64 pp.

Terres, J. 1980. Encyclopedia of North American birds, NY. 1109 pp.

Daniel Williams, 6055 Safford Road, Rockford, IL 61101, twotringas@earthlink.net

Who Knew? A Smew *(Mergellus albellus)*!

by Robert T. Chapel

On 13 January 2001, a field trip group to the Riverlands wetlands in West Alton, Missouri, St. Charles County, would make a discovery that would send the North American birding world into a frenzy. Like many others, I learned about the discovery via the Internet. On the morning of 14 January, just before going to some of my favorite local winter birding areas, I checked IBET (Illinois birders' list serve) and read that an adult male Smew *(Mergellus albellus)* had been found at Riverlands just over the Illinois border. My plans immediately changed and by shortly after 10 a.m. I pulled up at the base of the soon-to-be famous Clark Bridge over the Mississippi River. I soon spotted Keith McMullen and Dan Kassebaum standing there, who quickly pointed out the cooperative Smew to me.

Smew. 13 January 2001. Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area. East Alton, Missouri. St. Charles County. First State Record for Missouri. Video capture photo by Chris Wood.

Once having seen the bird, being intrepid Illinois birders, we waited to see if the Smew would venture onto the Illinois side of an invisible line. As we waited, the stories of its discovery circulated among the birders present, surprisingly few, so far, as the word had not yet spread. Apparently, a nine-year-old girl, later identified as Anne Hendricks (see Granlund 2001) first spotted the bird, wondering what the white bird was. It was shortly realized that it wasn't a Long-tailed Duck as first thought, but a Smew. Matt Gearheart and Roger McNeil identified it as a Smew.

By noon, I had tired of the vigil and needed a break, but returned at 1 p.m. to find there had been no change. The Smew hung closely to the Missouri shore, feeding with the Common Mergansers. However, at 1:30 p.m., the local Peregrine Falcon rousted all the gulls and ducks, at which point we lost track of the Smew. After a few minutes of scanning the gulls and ducks that had landed on the far ice, I picked out a duck that turned out to be the Smew flying from the farthest side of the open water toward us. A discussion ensued as to whether the bird had been in Illinois. After carefully reviewing U.S. Geological Survey maps and looking at the open water from the Clark Bridge, I decided it was too close a call to determine whether the Smew had entered Illinois.

As luck would have it, I would have another opportunity to see the Smew. On 20 January 2001 Greg Lambeth, who hadn't yet seen the Smew, offered to drive and asked if I would accompany him. It was a good opportunity to go to an excellent birding area, and most of the gulls showed up on the Illinois side of the border there. We quickly found the Smew and observed it at length. By 9:30 a.m., my eyes had wandered to other ducks when Lambeth noted that the Smew was a long way out and swimming northeast. We watched the bird as it continued to swim steadily northeast for about fifteen minutes, until it was the farthest east duck in the entire basin. Lambeth then called excitedly to all the birders present, "It's in Illinois." But no one seemed to care. It turned out that all the birders around us were from two large groups from Ohio and Pennsylvania and had no interest in the Illinois/Missouri border. All the Illinois and Missouri birders had either departed or were searching out the large numbers of gulls. After checking the U. S. Geographic Survey maps, it was evident the bird was well over 100 yards into Illinois and perhaps closer to 200 yards. The Illinois border runs fairly close to shore at the Clark Bridge and actually crosses onto land on the Missouri side of the river near the lock and dam, so that all of the lock and dam is in Illinois. One other birder, Richard Biss, also saw the Smew in Illinois on a different day (pers. comm.).

While there is no question of the identity of the Smew, there have been doubts raised as to its origin. On 14 January 2001, those present did discuss the origin and looked for obvious signs of captivity, including bands and signs of clipped wings. None were observed. Chris Wood got good closeup photos that showed the left leg very well with no bands. Wood said he has

some poor shots of the right leg; but these photos also strongly suggest the bird did not have a band.

Speculation at the time centered on the Smew being the same one that had occurred the previous year in Wisconsin, which was accepted by the state's ornithological records committee. That the bird showed up with migrating Common Goldeneyes and Common Mergansers in Missouri lent credence to it being of wild origin. The Missouri Bird Records Committee has since accepted the January 2001 Smew as a wild bird, and it is now on the state checklist (pers. comm. Chris Wood). The Illinois Ornithological Records Committee has not voted on whether this species should be accepted for Illinois.

Unfortunately, the issue has since been clouded with the discovery of how common the Smew is in captivity. While there have been no reports of Smews lost from zoo collections, and reports of Smews lost from private collections have not come to light, the sheer number in captivity has to give pause to any consideration of this bird's origin.

Thousands of visitors observed this bird at Riverlands through the winter season. A Eurasian sea duck, the Smew is native to Siberia, the northern Pacific, and the Arctic, and in North America found as a rare vagrant in the westernmost islands of Alaska. Females have a white throat and lower face, with a reddish head and nape. Males are white, with a black mask and black body markings. In flight the Smew, considered accidental in most of North America, has conspicuous black-and-white wings.

Despite the questions of origin, the Smew's presence at the Riverlands introduced this marvelous birding area (previous good birds in the area included Slaty-backed Gull, Ross's Gull, and Wood Stork) to the national birding community. Many people enjoyed not only the Smew, but also the variety of winter gulls, including Laughing, Franklin's, Thayer's, Iceland, Glaucous, and Lesser Black-backed; Eurasian Tree Sparrows; numerous Bald Eagles; and the variety of ducks, including an elusive (to me!) Barrow's Goldeneye.

Literature Cited

Granlund, J. 2001. The changing seasons: western great lakes. North American Birds 55:176.

Robert Chapel, 306 1/2 West California, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

Photo Quiz

by Steven D. Bailey

A rare sight indeed! In each case, the photo shows a jaeger soaking up the rays on solid ground. Given you've read the articles on jaegers in this issue, you should have no problem identifying these two birds. Too bad the photos are so good. The quiz would have been even more difficult if both birds had their heads in their backs, asleep. Identify the birds in these two photos, noting why you made your choice. Answers will appear in the next issue of *Meadowlark*, along with credit to the photographers.

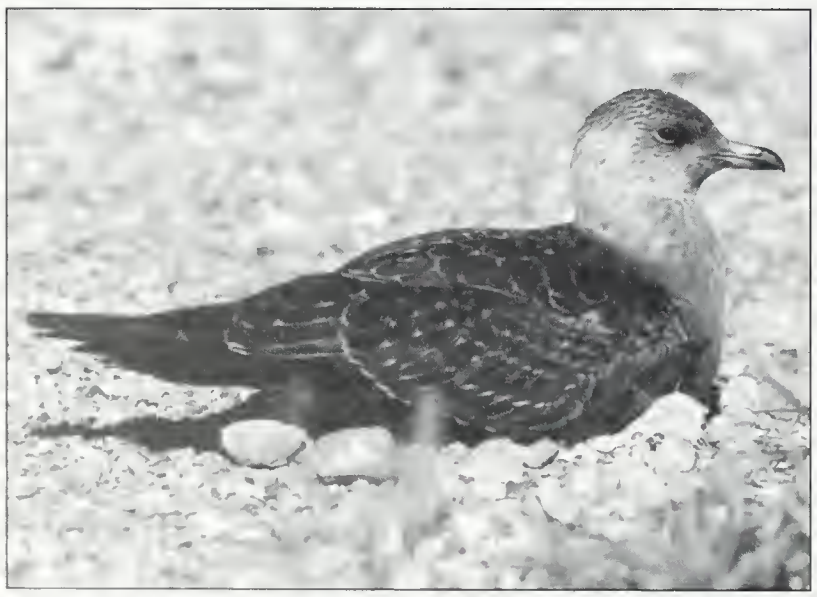


Photo A

Photo B

The 2000/2001 Illinois Christmas Bird Count

by David B. Johnson

The CBC season might best be summed in one word — SNOW! Counters were bludgeoned with one of the snowiest CBC seasons on record for the state — this was a sharp contrast to the 1999/2000 Count that was the warmest winter on record for the state (Johnson 2000). Those wishing for a white Christmas got it! And then some. Chicago recorded its snowiest December on record and Peoria had its second snowiest and third coldest in Peoria weather station history, according to compilers Richard and Sigurd Bjorklund of the Chautauqua NWR count. The snowiest count was in the northeastern part of the state where Waukegan recorded a maximum 48 inches. Observers on this count were using snowshoes. Several other parties in northern Illinois also effectively used snowshoes and cross-country skis to count birds while others statewide resorted to roadside and feeder party counts when the hiking got difficult or observers could not leave their vehicles. In extreme southern Illinois Warbluff measured only 2 inches of snow cover but—all 60 counts had snow cover. Many participants had difficulty taking to the field with the large amounts of drifting snow and heavy snow cover (party miles on foot was nearly halved compared to last year's count). Several counts were postponed only to later succumb to even worse weather and no one could dodge the cold weather—10 degrees being the average low temperature and 22 degrees being the average high—both well below freezing. Two intrepid observers, James and Eleanor Smith, managed to participate in 10 snowy counts statewide dodging snowdrifts along the way. For an interesting account of this odyssey see Smith (2001). Needless to say, like the Smiths, nearly all Illinois observers who left the road often had to wade through knee deep snow to tally birds for the CBC.

RESULTS

Results from 60 counts included 151 species and one unrecognized form. No count reached the 100 species mark. Only four made it to the 90s: Union County (98), Mermet Lake (95), Springfield (93), and Cypress Creek (90). Fermilab-Batavia recorded the highest number of field observers — 71 — a remarkable number since many stayed home this year.

HIGH COUNTS

Only eight all-time state high counts were set for an individual species total recorded within a count circle. With cold and snow came good concentrations of eagles — a record **2,283** statewide Bald Eagles was an impressive tally. A remarkable **357** Bald Eagles were a record at Davenport and **338** at Muscatine. Both totals exceeded the previous all-time high of 327 held by Pere Marquette Park in 1988. In addition, the 61 individuals at Starved Rock represented a record there, as did the 126 individuals at Meredosia Island. Also, **109** Northern Harriers and **42** Short-eared Owls were tallied at Cypress Creek. Newton recorded **105** Greater Prairie-Chickens and a record **11** Eurasian Collared-Doves. Fermilab-Batavia tallied **1,368** Cedar Waxwings, Cypress Creek tallied 367 White-crowned Sparrows, and Chautauqua capped off the high counts with **97** Red Crossbills. Tied all-time high counts were Evanston's **14** Cooper's Hawks and Quincy's **6** Harris's Sparrows. The top five species with the highest individual counts were: Canada Goose (398,216), American

Harris's Sparrow (left) and Northern Cardinal. 23 December 2000. Collinsville Christmas Bird County in Madison County. Photo by Frank Holmes.

Crow (151,728), Red-winged Blackbird (197,328), Common Grackle (193,749), and European Starling (91,236).

ROADSIDE AND REGULARLY OCCURRING SPECIES

Every Illinois count benefitted from "roadside birds." Many observers remained as Dan Kassebaum did, mostly inside the car. "It was so cold and windy that I did not get out of my truck," Kassebaum said. "I logged 0 miles walked. The snow plows exposed bare ground from the roadside edges. This is where I found most of the birds in my count area." Nearly every compiler mentioned large numbers of Horned Larks, Lapland Longspurs, and Dark-eyed Juncos coming to the sides of the roads after snow storms and heavy snow covered the fields. The tally of 32,317 Horned Larks in 56 count circles showed just how widespread this species was. Lapland Longspurs (4,289 in 46 circles) outnumbered Snow Buntings (1,287 in 41 circles) by about 4 to 1 statewide. Several Snow Buntings made incursions far to the south in Illinois with individuals showing up at Collinsville, Carlyle Lake, Newton, Quincy, and Pere Marquette. Dark-eyed Juncos were also widespread often along road edges, the 33,575 individuals in all circles was a significant count. White-throated Sparrows certainly were recorded in good numbers and missed on only one count with 6,081 individuals in 59 circles. The winter resident American Tree Sparrow also was statewide in its distribution with 23,686 individuals in all circles.

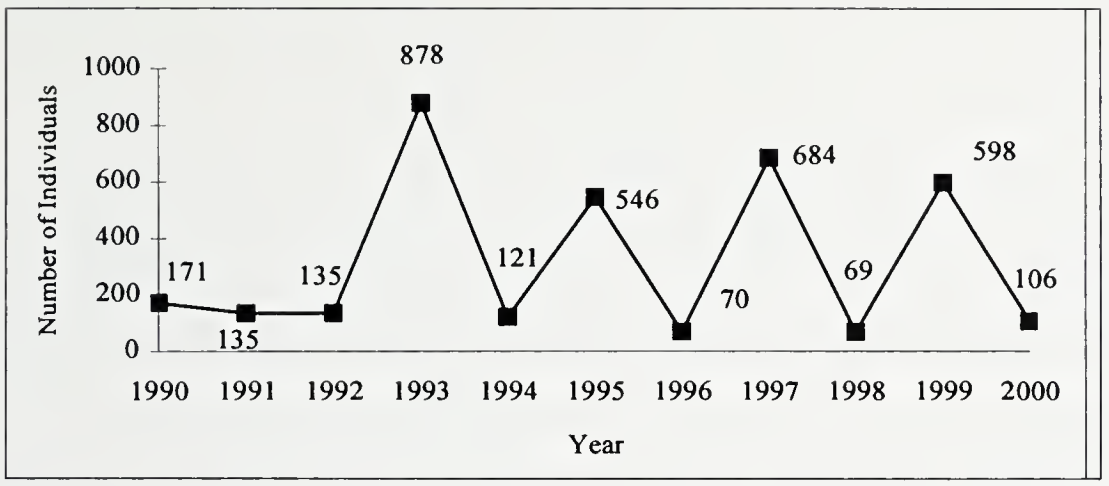
The following is a list of roadside species reported during the blowing and drifting snows: Northern Bobwhite, Rock Dove, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Mourning Dove, Loggerhead Shrike, Blue Jay, American Crow, Horned Lark, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Eastern Bluebird, Hermit Thrush, American Robin, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, Eastern Towhee, American Tree Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Le Conte's Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Harris's Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Lapland Longspur, Snow Bunting, Northern Cardinal, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark ("in flocks of 30+" at Carlyle Lake), Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, House Finch, American Goldfinch, and House Sparrow.

CBC RARITIES AND UNUSUAL BIRDS

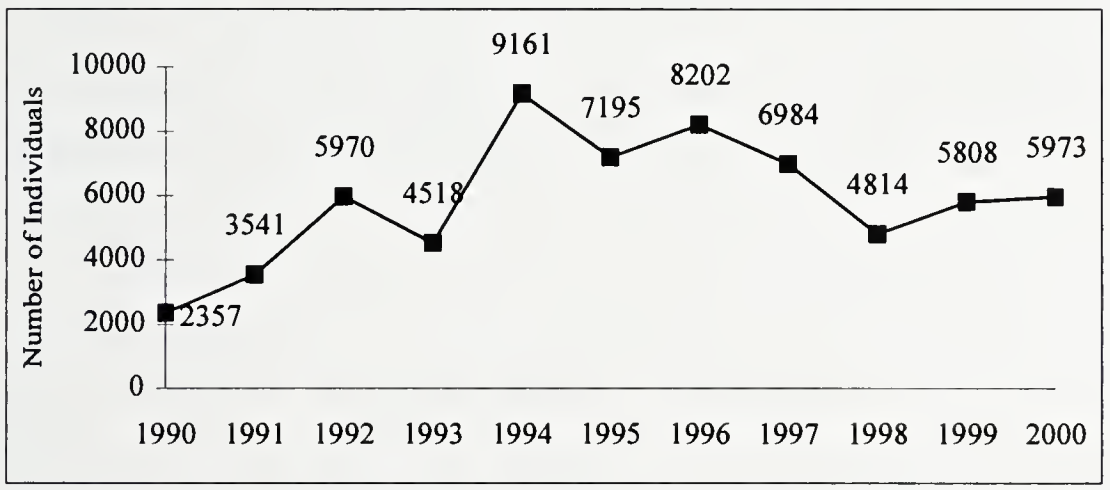
The most spectacular rare bird was the **King Eider** at Springfield. Other unusual lingering or rare birds in early winter included an Eared Grebe at Springfield. The 34 Horned Grebes at Baldwin Lake were noteworthy. Pere Marquette had a lone American White Pelican. Illini's (2) and Kishwaukee's (1) Turkey Vultures were unusual so far north; Springfield had its highest count of four vultures. Kankakee had an unusual 6 Greater White-fronted Geese. Singleton Ross's Geese were on three counts: Fermilab-Batavia, Horseshoe Lake, and Rend Lake. Only seven Trumpeter Swans were reported with Springfield (5) having the highest count; the only Tundra Swan report was six at Peoria. Fermilab-Batavia had the only Long-tailed Duck–one bird. Calumet City-Sand Ridge recorded a lone Surf Scoter. Only two Northern Goshawks were tallied: one at Champaign and one at Chautauqua NWR. Three Golden Eagles were seen at Clinton, IA, Meredosia Island, and Union County. Merlins, formerly always unusual, seem to be on the increase with 11 individuals recorded in 11 circles. After a long CBC absence the 11 Gray Partridge noted at Davenport, IA were a welcome observation. Princeton-Commanche IA, recorded the only Virginia Rail (in Illinois). Clinton Lake tallied the only Sandhill Crane. Three Least Sandpipers were noteworthy at Horseshoe Lake. The unusual gull department was one Iceland Gull at Starved Rock. Seven Lesser Black-backed Gulls were recorded in 5 circles with the southernmost being at Mermet Lake. Glaucous Gulls were at Morris-Wilmington (2), Starved Rock (1), Quincy (1) and a southernmost individual at Rend Lake. Two Great Black-backed Gulls were at Calumet City-Sand Ridge and one each at Peoria, Starved Rock, and Waukegan. Eurasian Collared-Doves are slowly colonizing the state with 15 individuals in 4 circles noted. Humiston Woods reported a Barn Owl with no details. Two Snowy Owls were noted both in northeastern Illinois at Calumet City-Sand Ridge and along the Chicago Lakefront. Lisle (1), Middlefork (1), and Clinton, IA (1) were the only counts to record Northern Saw-whet Owl. 16 Eastern Phoebes were tallied in seven circles with Cypress Creek noting six individuals. Only 9 Northern Shrikes were reported this year in eight circles — certainly a

Merlin. 12 Dec. 2000. Will County Christmas Bird Count. Photo by Joe B. Milosevich.

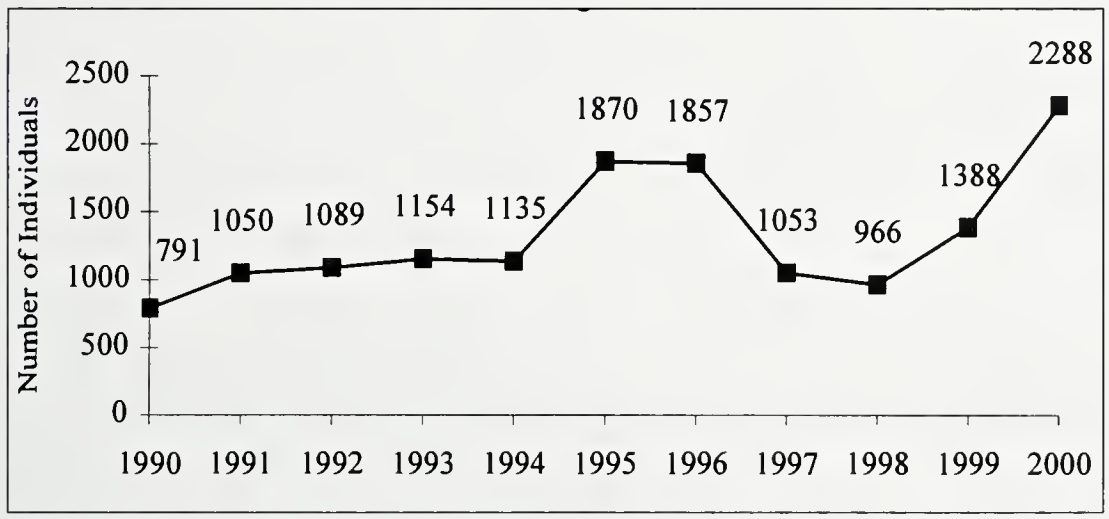
Red-Breasted Nuthatch



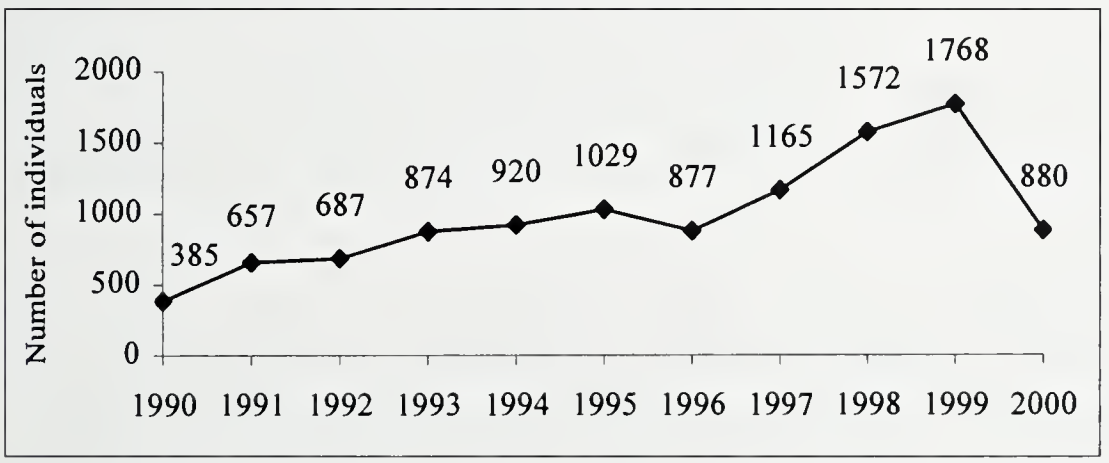
House Finch



Bald Eagle



Great Blue Heron



"far cry" from the 1999/2000 invasion in Illinois (Bailey 2000). Four Gray Catbirds were noted at Chillicothe (1), Jackson County(1), McHenry (1) and Mermet Lake(1). Springfield (1) and Humiston (with no details, 1) had the only American Pipit reports. Cypress Creek, Union, and Rend Lake tallied solitary Pine Warblers. Springfield tallied the only Spotted Towhee. Horseshoe Lake tallied a lone Vesper Sparrow. Always hard to find but seemingly more regular in southern Illinois were the 67 Le Conte's Sparrows in nine circles – most amazing was Cypress Creek's tally of 34! Four Lincoln's Sparrows were reported, one at Clinton, IA; Mermet Lake had two and one was at Cypress Creek. Fourteen Harris's Sparrows in eight circles certainly was a noteworthy count for a species that often goes unrecorded on the CBC. Clinton Lake had the only Western Meadowlark. A Yellow-headed Blackbird was at Mermet Lake. Always unusual, Brewer's Blackbirds were noted at Clinton Lake (2), Cypress Creek (1), Decatur (2), Illini (1), Rockford (1) and Union County (1). Finally the ones that "didn't count" were Springfield's unusual count week birds, a Spotted Sandpiper and California Gull, and Champaign County's Chipping Sparrow.

WINTER FINCHES

This was not a winter finch year. Red Crossbills were recorded in four circles with Chautauqua having the highest count (97); Meredosia (4); Waukegan (2) and White Pines (30). Three uncommon Common Redpolls were recorded at Thorn Creek. 81 Pine Siskins were recorded in 16 circles indicating their widespread status but relatively low numbers.

LOW COUNTS

It is difficult to assess trends for low numbers of birds during a very cold, snowy early winter in

Illinois. Long-tailed Duck was almost missed and is now a difficult bird to find in northeastern Illinois along Lake Michigan. Waterfowl numbers were way down this CBC — largely pushed out of the state by the cold and freezing water. Red-headed Woodpecker numbers were nearly a third of last year's numbers — 666 birds in 43 circles compared with last year's 2,008 (in 39 circles) but these cycles seem to be normal. 106 Red-breasted Nuthatches in 25 circles was low, too. But, then, they simply failed to irrupt into Illinois this CBC.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A special thanks to Steven D. Bailey, Frank Bennett, H. David Bohlen, Richard and Sigurd Bjorklund, Myrna Deaton, Tim Dever, Tracy Evans, Joel Greenberg, Brad Grover, Jim Hampson, Duane Heaton, Ralph Herbst, Jeff Hoover, Denis Kania, Carolyn Marsh, Kelly McKay, John McKee, Keith McMullen, Vernon Kleen, Jeff Walk, Dan Kassebaum, Jeff Sanders, Eleanor and James O. Smith, Al Stokie, Ken Vail, Jeff Walk, Tony Ward, Dan Williams, Geoff Williamson, and any other compilers (whom I may have forgotten) for recounting the special aspects of this very snowy Illinois CBC. Finally a special thanks to all Illinois field participants who got out in the snow to count. You all did a remarkable job under some very trying and adverse weather conditions.

LITERATURE CITED

Bailey, S. D. 2000. The widespread invasion of Northern Shrikes *(Lanius excubitor)* in Illinois in winter 1999/2000 with comments on the species non-breeding season demographics. Meadowlark 9:82-90.

Brinkley, E. S. 2001. The Changing Seasons: Winter 2000-2001. North American Birds 55:132-139.

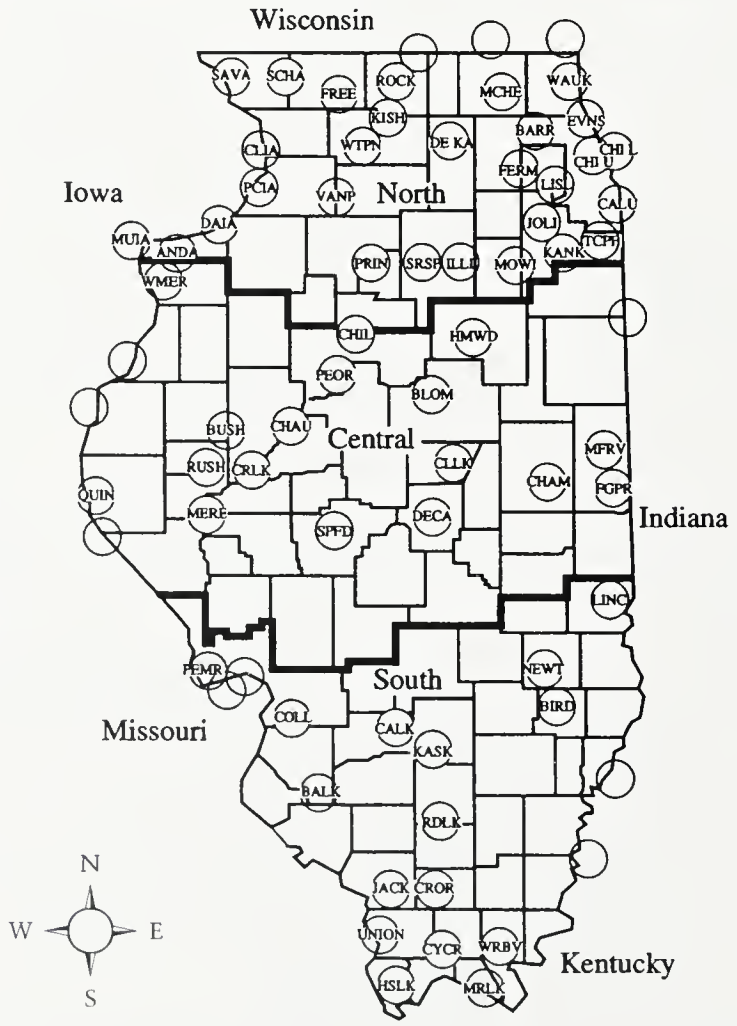
Johnson, D. B. 2000. The 1999/2000 Illinois Christmas Bird Count. Meadowlark 9:95-106.

Smith, J. O. 2001. Why participate in Christmas Bird Counts? Illinois Audubon 276:10-15.

David B. Johnson , 504 Crown Point Drive, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089, Djohnsoda@home.com

2000 CBC Count Circles

2000 CBC count circles.
The empty circles which border the state do not report to the Illinois CBC.



2000 CBC count circles. The empty circles which border the state do not report to the Illinois CBC.

Key to Tables

Code	Description
ad.	adult
cw	count week only (3 days before or after)
dd	details desired
ed	excellent details
gd	good details
hc	high count for that circle
HC	All-time High Count for the state
imm.	immature
nc	new species to that circle's count
nd	no details
ps	Present for sometime
ph	Photographed
rn	remarkable number
rr	remarkable record
ud	unconvincing details
boldface	Species/number/item of note

Count Name	Map I.D.	Date	Time		Temp		Sky	Snow	Water	Wind	Wind	Veloc.	Field	Feeder	Feeder	Parties	Party	Hours	Hours	Party	Miles	Miles	Owling	Owling	Compiler	Area
			Begin	End	Low	High				Direction	Low	High	Obsrv	Obsrv	Hours	Parties	Hours	on foot	by car	Miles	on foot	by car	Hours	Miles	Hours	
Andalusia	ANDA	26-Dec	445	1715	10	29	Cloudy light snow	16	Frozen	SW	0	10	6	0	0	1-3	25.5	0.25	25.25	295.25	0.25	295	2.75	22	Kelly J. McKay	
Barrington	BARR	18-Dec	645	1600	-2	15	Cloudy, light snow	6-18	Prtly Froz	VAR	0	8	28	6	5.5	8- 12	69.25	43.25	26	326.25	35.25	291	0	0	Duane Heaton	
Calumet City-Sand Ridge	CALU	30-Dec	700	1645	19	31	Cloudy, light snow	12 - 16	Prtly Froz	NE	0	0	43	5	10	14	63	31	32	288	18	270	0	0	Carolyn Marsh	
Chicago Lakefront	CHI L	25-Dec	700	1500	5	15	Partly clear	12 - 40	Prtly Open	NW	5	9	9	0	0	1-3	13.5	9.5	4	55	4	51	0	0	Joel Greenberg	
Chicago (urban)	CHI U	17-Dec	400	1600	9	15	Partly clear	8 - 20	Prtly Open	NW	8	15	18	5	5	9	60	48	12	260	40	220	2	5	Jeffrey Sanders	
Clinton IA	CL IA	14-Dec	430	1700	11	25	Cloudy	9	Frozen	NW	3	6	10	0	0	5	38.25	4.25	33.25	308.25	3.25	302	4	29	Kelly J. McKay	
DeKalb	DEKA	16-Dec	600	1600	28	32	Cloudy, Partly Clear	12 - 16	Prtly Open	VAR	0	10	12	0	0	4-5	33.5	16.75	16.75	298	23	275	2.25	4	Kevin Jury	
Evanston (north shore)	EVNS	30-Dec	400	1630	20	29	Cloudy, Heavy Snow	16 - 33	Prtly Open	NW	15	20	29	16	16	11	91	66.5	19	334.25	84.5	245	6.5	19	Ralph Herbst	
Fermilab-Batavia	FERM	16-Dec	645	1700	24	33	Cloudy	14 - 20	Partly Open	W	0	10	71	4	16	10 - 26	164	124	40	505	110	395	3	1.5	Denis Kania	
Freeport	FREE	30-Dec	700	1630	20	31	Cloudy, Partly Clear	14	Partly Open	NW	10	15	11	5	22	4	34	1	33	465	1	464	2	39	Keith Blackmore	
Illini State Park	ILLI	17-Dec	500	1700	5	16	Cloudy; Partly clear	6	Partly Open	W	8	28	10	2	4	5	33.5	2.25	31.25	451.25	2.25	449	2.25	24	Jim Hampson	
Joliet	JOLI	22-Dec	700	1700	5	12	Clear	10-18	Partly Open	W	5	12	8	3	4	7	39.5	5.5	34	379	4	375	0	0	Jerry Olson	N
Kankakee	KANK	26-Dec	700	1700	10	25	Cloudy; light snow	6 -15	Partly Open	NW	10	15	5	1	2	2	15	1	14	144	3	141	0	0	John Baxter	
Kishwaukee	KISH	30-Dec	700	1700	24	31	Cloudy; partly Cloudy	24	Prtly Open	N	12	27	27	6	12	14	85.75	30	55.75	584	26	558	0.75	0.5	Brad Grover	O
Lisle Arboretum	LISL	17-Dec	500	1630	2	11	Cloudy; partly clear	8 - 12	Prtly Open	W	10	28	57	1	2	13 - 23	123.45	61.2	62.25	502.95	56.25	446.7	10.5	36.25	Geoffrey A. Williamson	
McHenry County	MCHE	16-Dec	745	1630	32	35	Cloudy	5 - 20	Prtly Froz	W	0	10	36	0	0	15	87.75	42.5	45.25	555	38	517	0.25	0	David A. Frey	R
Morris-Wilmington	MOWI	31-Dec	715	1615	9	26	Clear; cloudy	3 - 12	Prtly Open	W	5	10	15	4	5	9	69	12.5	56.5	594	14	580	0	0	John Stofan	
Muscatine IA-IL City	MU IA	23-Dec	500	1715	4	18	Cloudy	17	Frozen	SW	5	20	10	4	4	4	34.25	5	29.25	435	5	430	0	0	Kelly J. McKay	T
Princeton	PRIN	1-Jan	530	1630	7	13	Cloudy; light snow; clear	12	Prtly Open	NW	0	6	6	0	0	2	15.75	1.5	14.25	290	2	288	1.25	13	Jim Hampson	
Princeton-Camanche IA	PC IA	19-Dec	415	1715	5	18	Clear	14	Prtly Open	NW	10	20	5	0	0	4	28.75	4.5	24.25	294.5	3.5	291	0	0	Kelly J. McKay	H
Davenport	DA IA	17-Dec	400	1715	0	6	Clear	1	Prtly Open	WNW	20	30	11	12	12	6	48.25	9.5	38.75	427	7	420	0	9	Kelly J. McKay	
Rockford	ROCK	23-Dec	700	1700	6	18	Cloudy	20	Prtly Open	SW	3	10	31	6	7	12 - 18	91.75	42.25	42.5	584.25	41.25	538	2.5	16	Daniel T. Williams	
Schapville	SCHA	30-Dec	700	1545	20	28	Cloudy	15 - 24	Prtly Open	N	10	15	17	0	0	6	53	3	50	253.5	4.5	249	0	0	Terrence N. Ingram	
Starved Rock State Park	SRSP	30-Dec	515	1645	23	29	Cloudy	5 - 10	Prtly Open	NW	5	10	12	2	4	5	38.75	6.5	32.25	404	5	399	1.5	18	John McKee	
Thom Creek-Park Forest	TCPF	17-Dec	600	1630	3	12	Cloudy; partly clear	19	Prtly Open	W	3	7	33	11	15	12	55	14	41	414	12	402	0.75	0.5	Jim Kelly	
Van Petten	VANP	30-Dec	500	1730	15	28	Cloudy; light snow, clear	22	Prtly Open	NW	10	20	10	0	0	5	35.5	2	31.75	332.5	2.5	327	1.5	3	Kelly J. McKay	
Waukegan	WAUK	1-Jan	600	1700	10	20	Clear	36 - 48	Prtly Open	SW	5	5	22	83	166	8 - 14	70	55	15	368.5	40.5	328	3	18	Scott Hickman, Joel Greenberg	
White Pines	WTPN	23-Dec	400	1700	-5	15	Partly cloudy; light snow	12 - 18	Frozen	NW	0	10	12	7	8	7	52	16	36	398.5	14.5	384	1	1	Jerry McCormick	
Bloomington-Normal	BLOM	17-Dec	700	1700	3	8	Partly cloudy; light snow	4 - 10	Prtly Open	W	10	30	11	1	2	4 - 5	29	19	10	159	20	139	0	0	Dale Birkenholz	
Bushnell	BUSH	16-Dec	700	1700	16	35	Cloudy	8	Prtly Open	VAR	5	25	10	0	0	6	42	8.5	33.5	307.5	10.5	297	0	0	Larry Hood	
Champaign County	CHAM	16-Dec	615	1630	20	36	Cloudy; partly Cloudy	2 - 6	Prtly Froz	NW	1	15	17	3	6	2 - 9	50	33.25	16.75	245.75	27.75	218	0.5	5	Helen M. Parker	
Chautauqua N.W.R.	CHAU	23-Dec	615	1630	6	23	Cloudy	8 - 12	Prtly Open	W	5	15	19	1	2	6 - 7	52	21.75	30.25	304.75	17.75	287	0.5	0.5	Richard & Sigurd Bjorklund	C
Chillicothe	CHIL	30-Dec	700	1615	15	20	Cloudy; light snow	16	Prtly Froz	VAR	10	25	17	0	0	7	56	10	46	461	8	453	0	0	Tracy Meints Fox	
Clinton Lake	CLLK	15-Dec	600	1700	2	29	Cloudy, light snow	6	Prtly Open	VAR	5	15	11	2	2	6	47.5	19	28.5	317	14	303	1	5	Myrna Deaton	E
Crane Lake-Sangamon	CRLK	21-Dec	700	1500	5	10	Clear	3 - 5	Prtly Froz	NW	0	5	6	0	0	3	24	3	21	165	7	158	0	0	Robert Randall	
Decatur	DECA	23-Dec	?	?	5	23	Partly cloudy	5	Prtly Open	SE	10	15	19	6	12	6	53.25	37.25	16	99.25	17.25	82	0	0	Ross Thompson	N
Forest Glen Preserve	FGPR	20-Dec	630	1715	2	20	Clear; partly cloudy	8 - 10	Prtly Froz	VAR	0	5	13	2	3	7	45.75	28.5	17.25	194.5	22.5	172	0	0	Marilyn F. Campbell	
Humiston Woods	HMWD	28-Dec	600	1600	1	16	Cloudy; snow	14	Frozen	NW	5	10	11	10	16	4	8	0	13	89	15	74	0	0	Joe Jobst	T
Meredosia Island	MERE	14-Dec	645	1700	7	20	Clear	4 - 6	Prtly Froz	NW	0	3	7	0	0	4	36	11	25	324	14	310	0	0	Tony Ward	
Middle Fork River Valley	MFRV	17-Dec	730	1730	2	7	Partly clear; light snow	1 -4	Prtly Open	W	12	30	11	0	0	7	36.75	25	11.75	192.5	21.5	171	0.5	1	Steven D. Bailey	R
Peoria	PEOR	16-Dec	700	1600	21	29	Cloudy	18 - 20	Prtly Froz	NE	0	5	3	13	26	3	12	3	9	65	3	62	0	0	L. H. Princen	
Quincy	QUIN	23-Dec	600	1600	18	24	Cloudy; partly cloudy	2 - 10	Prtly Open	S	10	15	7	0	0	4	32.5	2	30.5	308	1.5	306.5	0.5	5	Ken Vail	A
Rushville	RUSH	30-Dec	800	1700	-2	10	Partly cloudy	12	Frozen	NW	10	10	0	30	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Harold E. Hedden	
Springfield	SPFD	17-Dec	500	1730	0	7	Clear	4	Frozen	NW	10	25	10	14	14	7	54	18	36	314	17	297	2	30	H. David Bohlen	L
Western Mercer Co.	WMER	20-Dec	500	1815	-5	10	Coudy; light - heavy snow	16	Frozen	SE	10	20	5	0	0	1 - 4	28.75	2.75	26	275	2	273	3.5	19	Kelly J. McKay	
Baldwin Lake-Kaskaskia	BALK	27-Dec	415	1700	21	26	Cloudy; light snow	10 -20	Prtly Open	NW	10	15	3	1	2	3	19.5	11.17	8.33	227.92	11.92	216	1.16	45.25	Tim Dever	
Bird Haven Sanct.-Olney	BIRD	30-Dec	645	1715	15	21	Cloudy; light snow	9	Prtly Open	NW	10	15	12	0	0	7	56	14	42	412	15	397	0	0	Frank E. Storment	
Carlyle Lake	CALK	19-Dec	400	1730	4	14	Clear; partly cloudy	10 - 12	Frozen	W	10	15	11	5	0	5	49.25	15.25	34	464	16	448	2	38	Dan Kassebaum	
Collinsville	COLL	23-Dec	730	1700	13	30	Local fog; Cloudy	6	Frozen	W	5	5	8	1	2	5	39	9.5	29.5	363.5	13.5	350	0	0	Leon B. Hendrickson	S
Crab Orchard N.W.R.	CROR	23-Dec	645	1630	11	32	Partly cloudy	2 - 6	Partly Open	NW	10	20	7	0	0	4	36.75	5	31.75	282.75	4.75	278	1	10	Tracy R. Evans	
Cypress Creek	CYCR	18-Dec	645	1700	10	24	Cloudy; light snow	2 - 5	Partly Open	W	5	10	22	1	2	10 - 15	102.25	48.25	54	739.55	49.75	689.8	1	5	Jeff Hoover	O
Horseshoe Lake	HSLK	28-Dec	530	1745	16	32	Partly Cloudy	2 -5	Partly Open	N	3	8	11	0	0	6 - 8	62.5	29.5	33	355.5	22.5	333	2	26	Vernon Kleen	
Jackson County	JACK	1-Jan	400	1745	16	25	Clear	6	Partly Open	W	5	5	21	3	6	7	54.25	29.25	25	195.2	23	172.2	2	18	Rhonda S. Monroe	U
Lincoln Trail State Park	LINC	27-Dec	700	2400	5	20	Partly cloudy; light snow	6 - 8	Frozen	VAR	0	5	10	4	7	4	14.25	2	2.25	181	1	180	0	0	Charlotte Connerton	
Mermet Lake, Massac Co.	MRLK	30-Dec	300	1700	18	24	Partly cloudy	3 - 5	Partly Open	SW	0	5	11	0	0	6	62	20	42	413	19	394	2	20	Frank Bennett	T
Newton	NEWT	19-Dec	700	1615	4	15	Partly cloudy	10	Partly Open	NW	20	30	10	0	0	4 -5	36	8.5	27.5	312	12	300	0	0	Jeffery W. Walk	
Pere Marquette Park	PEMR	30-Dec	800	1630	16	24	Cloudy; light snow	6 - 8	Prtly Froz	NW	10	15	14	0	0	5	36.75	7.25	29.5	220	5.5	214.5	0	0	Robert Thomas	H
Rend Lake	RDLK	23-Dec	400	1800	18	25	Partly cloudy; cloudy	5 -7	Frozen	SE	8	12	9	0	0	6 -7	64	28	36	591	21	570	6	65	Keith A. McMullen	
Union County	UNION	29-Dec	600	1730	19	22	Cloudy; light snow	2 -5	Partly Open	N	5	15	19	0	0	11 - 13	99	49	50	598.5	34.5	564	4.5	40	Vernon Kleen	
Warbluff Valley Sanctuary	WRBV	23-Dec	645	1645	9	23	Partly cloudy	0 -2	Prtly Froz	NW	0	5	8	3	4	4	32	6	26	177.9	5.7	172.2	0	0	Andrea Douglas	
					10.5	21 7							917	283	453.5		2940	1183.4	1736.6	19902	1074.4	18812	77.91	591.5		
					Avg L	Avg Hi							Total	Total	Total		Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total		

Illinois 2000
Christmas Bird Count Northern Counts

Species	WAUK	EVNS	CHI U	CHI L	CALU	MCHE	BARR	FERM	LISL	TCPF	JOLI	KANK	DEKA	MOWI	ILLI	ROCK	KISH	SRSP	FREE	WTPN	PRIN	TOTALS
Pied-billed Grebe			4		7	3		1	1		1			15	1							33
Horned Grebe			1														1					2
Double-crested Cormorant		1			16									23				1				41
Great Blue Heron	1	3	3	1	1	8	5	15	13		4		3	7	6	7	2	31			7	117
Black-crowned Night-Heron		1	2		1																	4
Turkey Vulture															**2 hc rr ed**		**1 rr**					3
Greater White-fronted Goose												**6 hc**										6
Snow Goose (blue form)														3		2						5
Snow Goose (form?)			3					6	17		cw			8								34
Ross's Goose								1 ed														1
Canada Goose	287	473	3040 hc	99	668	1968	1862	15643	18494 hc	5705	810	536	153	743	1770	1626	911	84	2	434	245	55553
Mute Swan			3 hc		136	9	6	3		2	5	6										170
Trumpeter Swan					1																	1
Wood Duck			2		1	1		3	2			3										12
Gadwall	19	1	2		21		4	1	46		55			61			2					212
American Wigeon	3		cw					3														6
American Black Duck	21	19	6		15	6	2	33	19	4	6	23		52	27	3					1	237
Mallard	1323	1709	802	37	2352	591	1108	2519	901	188	581	523	445	241	2214	849	369	443	143	203	166	17707
Northern Shoveler	1							2			1	2										6
Northern Pintail		1	1												1							3
Green-winged Teal		1	1				1	4	1		3											11
Canvasback			cw					2						26								28
Redhead	9	1			1																	11
Ring-necked Duck		1	3		34	4																42
Greater Scaup	9				35																	44
Lesser Scaup	3		19		218	4			1	1				8								254
Surf Scoter					1																	1
Long-tailed Duck								**1 hc ed**														1
Bufflehead	47	1	16 hc		1									9	2							76
Common Goldeneye	306	522	332	352	266	2	18	27	35 hc		46	162		292	36		12	105		1	450	2964
Hooded Merganser	9	1	15 hc		20				1		3			37	19						1	106
Common Merganser	213	6	4	175	360		8	2	4		36	5		217	1293		6	140				2469
Red-breasted Merganser	22	35	25 hc	372	106									212	2							774
Ruddy Duck	2					2					2			15			1					22
Bald Eagle	1	2			2			2 hc	3			1		2	9	5	8	61 hc	1	8 hc	54	159
Adults		1						1	1					1	5	2	3	21	1	3	20	59
Immatures	1	1			2			1	2			1		1	4	3	5	39		5	33	98
unknown																		1			1	2
Northern Harrier	3	2				4	2	10	1	3	1		6	cw	2	4	1	1		6		46
Sharp-shinned Hawk	6	3	cw		2	4	1	1	5		2	1		2	2	1	4	1				35
Cooper's Hawk	7	14 hc	1	1	6	8	6	10	2	4	4	1	3	5	2	1	2		3	3	1	84
Red-shouldered Hawk		1					1	1			1					3		1				8
Red-tailed Hawk	46	28	3		40	61	72	89	45	43	19	13	15	58	18	73	74	47	54	49	47	894
Rough-legged Hawk	1	1	3 hc			2	3	2	1		2	8	2	1	3	6	10	7	18	15	3	88
American Kestrel	8	3	4	2	14	14	16	19	7	13	9	4	11	9	4	13	15	23	11	10	6	215
Merlin		1	1					1	1		**1 ph**											5
Peregrine Falcon		1	1		1																	3
Ring-necked Pheasant	3				1	17	1	16		45	23	4	6	37	33	25	6	6	21	11		255
Wild Turkey								4						29	84 hc	42	30	1	5	72		267
American Coot	13		2		72		2	2	1		5	4		367	9							477
Sandhill Crane						cw																1 cw
Killdeer																1					3	4
Common Snipe		1	2			5		1	5		4				7	7					1	33
Ring-billed Gull	241	531	271	237	552	23	99	137	215	74	135	37		125	855			6				3538
Herring Gull	348	87	55	103	284		8	244	43	1	95	24		57	108			4085		7	110	5659
Thayer's Gull	3		cw	1														4				8
Iceland Gull																		1				1
Lesser Black-backed Gull		1																3				4
Glaucous Gull														2				1				3
Great Black-backed Gull	1				2													1				4
Rock Dove	662	806	1150	128	1146	284	195	612	827	159	91	195	187	112	165	475	671	119	394	606	90	9074
Ringed Turtle-Dove											16			9								25
Mourning Dove	772	510	80	4	341	406	120	660	244	265	201	101	176	149	29	398	438	276	81	169	21	5441
Monk Parakeet			2	2	86																	90
Eastern Screech-Owl	3	19	2				1	1	9				10			1		1		3	1	51
Great Horned Owl	10	4	4		3	5	6	14	11	2	1	1	10	3	2	10	2			5	4	97
Snowy Owl				1	1																	2
Barred Owl						1										8	3		3	2	2	19
Long-eared Owl	1						3													1		5
Short-eared Owl						3	2		1	1										1		8
Northern Saw-whet Owl									1													1

Christmas Bird Count Northern Counts

Species	WAUK	EVNS	CHI U	CHI L	CALU	MCHE	BARR	FERM	LISL	TCPF	JOLI	KANK	DEKA	MOWI	ILLI	ROCK	KISH	SRSP	FREE	WTPN	PRIN	TOTALS
Belted Kingfisher	3	4	1			7	3	11	10		3		4	1		2	1	1	1	2	3	57
Red-headed Woodpecker		4						3	1	4	4	3	2	2	1	1		3	1			29
Red-bellied Woodpecker	53	34	10		7	34	34	69	60	26	13	8	30	39	13	67	65	18	9	45	22	656
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		1	1				1		cw	1						2						6
Downy Woodpecker	156	149	115	1	42	83	102	213	126	54	29	11	64	63	26	155	129	21	22	64	15	1640
Hairy Woodpecker	29	48	21		5	11	12	34	21	2	7	1	1	4	1	24	10	4	3	11	1	250
Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker		1	1			2	6	8	4	12	2		8	14	3	9	13	1	3	5	3	95
Northern Flicker (form?)	6											3										9
Pileated Woodpecker																2 hc				1	1	4
Northern Shrike	1						1	2						1					1			6
Blue Jay	62	19	9		72	44	30	94	138	124	29	154	51	87	31	158	127	63	80	162	48	1582
American Crow	769	4576	605	38	1491	765	568	723	406	686	124	178	824	203	76	1361	2700	167	1125	735	181	18301
Horned Lark			cw		24	491	18	158	22	658	58	193	945	48	593	462	906	198	1051	238	132	6195
Black-capped Chickadee	778	448	186	4	93	290	238	722	323	136	76	8	117	104	46	394	294	59	42	220	54	4632
Tufted Titmouse	2	1			7		1	14	16	46	12	7		14	11	25	34	9	4	16	16	235
Red-breasted Nuthatch	13	2	3		1	14		8	2				1	3	1	3	2		2	18		73
White-breasted Nuthatch	123	35	21		16	55	27	74	56	31	10	3	32	41	19	114	85	9	6	74	17	848
Brown Creeper	3	8	27			8	11	12	4		1	2		10	1	12	32	1		3		135
Carolina Wren	2				1	1	1 hc	1	1	3				cw	1			1		1		13
Winter Wren								1	2						1	1						5
Golden-crowned Kinglet			1			1		2						1				2		3		10
Eastern Bluebird						8		2	13						1	7 hc	1				8	40
Hermit Thrush	1	2	3			1	4 hc	3 hc	3							2 hc	5					24
American Robin	296	626	139	49 hc	2	88	340	1488 hc	528	1	14	2		3	2	9	2	1	1	5		3596
Gray Catbird						**1 ed**																1
Northern Mockingbird	cw									2					1							3
Brown Thrasher	1								1													2
European Starling	1198	2201	1250	63	7290	1929	853	4085	1769	462	379	707	1080	683	916	1322	5609	1462	825	285	564	34932
Cedar Waxwing	78	118	21		12	565	164	**1368 HC**	198	45		22		29		158	165		60	20		3023
Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler	1		5				1	3	6	1												17
Eastern Towhee			1					1				1		1	1							5
American Tree Sparrow	259	179	72	8	199	332	1457	1521	541	205	220	66	140	359	362	511	461	113	422	731	154	8312
Field Sparrow	1							1	1				1			2				3 hc		9
Savannah Sparrow		1				2																3
Le Conte's Sparrow								**1 ed rr**														1
Fox Sparrow	3	2	1		2	2	8 hc	6	9					2	2	1	2			1	1	42
Song Sparrow	12	6	6		13	37	21	158	96	26	26	8	57	31	26	46	39	12	18	33	13	684
Swamp Sparrow			1				5	33	10		2		10	4		1		1		3		70
White-throated Sparrow	25	65	35	12	2	34	127	163 hc	233 hc	10	10	31	17	53	11	14	26	3	1	15	9	896
Harris's Sparrow												1										1
White-crowned Sparrow		4	3	1	1	2	12	3	10	9		26		28	8	1						108
Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco											1			1		3	2					7
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco	810	353	222	1	295	877	842	975	1168	555	436	127	449	241	502	2591 hc	1244	218	815	799	225	13745
Lapland Longspur			2			150	5	1	1	43	22	170	133		331	153	8		69	10	7	1105
Snow Bunting	25	3	12 hc	1		110		5	6	18	21	21	7	4	77	47	243		231	5	2	838
Northern Cardinal	409	304	123	1	133	142	303	502	257	248	104	101	109	111	89	471	259	105	89	176	93	4129
Red-winged Blackbird	52		10		61		90	7	5		8			493	28			231	1		1	987
Eastern Meadowlark										16			9		3							28
Rusty Blackbird			2					1			3				47	1		6				60
Brewer's Blackbird									cw						1	1 ed						2
Common Grackle	4	3			21		1	2		10	7			147	378			381			4	958
Brown-headed Cowbird	3	4			103		17			1	8		2	91	602	2	37	311	1	9	63	1254
Purple Finch		7	3			13	8	4	9	9				6	6	5	15			12		97
House Finch	325	252	101	2	94	114	146	175	75	209	130	22	22	53	21	646	522	13	129	112	10	3173
Red Crossbill	2																			30		32
Common Redpoll										3												3
Pine Siskin	10		2					3	cw	10					4	cw			4			33
American Goldfinch	405	421	126	6	202	124	150	388	243	205	54	34	8	56	77	388	230	39	43	83	22	3304
House Sparrow	1027	1787	1200	87	1047	703	942	719	807	967	437	917	169	428	637	1327	1294	1247	742	418	430	17332
duck sp.	9				2000																	2009
Accipiter sp.							1										1					2
Buteo sp.								1	2							1	2					6
hawk sp								1		2												3
gull sp.	25	69		93			46	92	28	7					116							476
owl sp																2						2
shrike sp							1															1
sparrow sp																13						13
meadowlark sp																			5	1		6
Total individuals	11385	16528	10206	1882	20050	10475	10149	33953	28168	11357	4413	4487	5319	6359	11778	14077	17134	10149	6542	5955	3312	243714
Total species	70	67	71	29	64	59	62	81	70	51	60	50	40	68	68	62	53	55	43	55	47	

Illinois 2000
Christmas Bird Count North/Central Counts

			Northern	*Counts*									*Central*	*Counts*								
Species	VANP	SCHA	CL IA	PC IA	DA IA	ANDU	MU IA	MERV	FGPR	CHAM	HMWD	BLOM	CLLK	DECA	CHIL	PEOR	CHAU	CRLK	SPFD	MERE	BUSH	TOTALS
Pied-billed Grebe													4		2		1		17			24
Horned Grebe													1						cw			1
Eared Grebe																			1			1
Double-crested Cormorant	1				2								2				1		cw			6
Great Blue Heron	1	1	1		10		5	7	3	5	1	1	7	4	4	2	185 hc	24	25	31	6 hc	323
Turkey Vulture								24	2				1 nc	cw					4 hc			31
Greater White-fronted Goose												1	2						cw			3
Snow Goose (blue form)																			2			2
Snow Goose (form?)					50	7				cw		1				10				61		131
Snow Goose (white form)								1											3			4
Canada Goose			501	59	772	89	1002	13134 hc	969	514	134	1299	12254	1951	271	35	3235	74	2210	1387	209	40099
Mute Swan																	2		10	1 bc		13
Trumpeter Swan						1													5 hc			6
Tundra Swan																6						6
Wood Duck					1					2			2						2			7
Gadwall	1		2		1		17	19					21	1	41		28		9	20		160
American Wigeon													7						3	5		15
American Black Duck	2		10		5	1	1	5				3	18	26	22		4		6			103
Mallard	343	30	605	55	775	61	248	614	3	82	40	456	5852	701	461	cw	64	11	500	25	14	10940
Northern Shoveler							1						4						6	2		13
Northern Pintail					5								5						1			11
Green-winged Teal							2						12		6		4		1			25
Canvasback																			6			6
Redhead	1												2						cw			3
Ring-necked Duck													1				31		5			37
Greater Scaup																			3			3
Lesser Scaup	1		1		3								15	3					12			35
King Eider																			1 rr ph ps			1
Bufflehead				1									1				4		20			26
Common Goldeneye	150		2	335	3	2	2						35	5			6	3	800 hc			1343
Hooded Merganser	2												33				38		16			89
Common Merganser	31		25	876	12	10	38						502 hc	6			561		150	8		2219
Red-breasted Merganser				1													1					2
Ruddy Duck			2																26			28
Bald Eagle	34	10	73	218	357	64	338	2 hc	7				1		40	26	71	51	4 hc	126 hc	3 hc	1425
Adults	10	9	29	100	191	31	242		5						19	11	32	32	1	46	2	760
Immatures	17	1	32	86	159	33	96	2	2						21	15	39	19	3	68	1	594
unknown	7		12	32	7								1							12		71
Northern Harrier	1			1	1		4	3		1	3		3	2	2		3	4	2	24 hc	2	56
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1						1	1		5		1	2	3	2		4	2		7 hc		29
Cooper's Hawk				2	3		1	4	2	3		3	2	2	2	1	3	2	3	2	2	37
Northern Goshawk			cw							1 ed				cw			1 ed					2
Red-shouldered Hawk											1		1						cw			2
Harlan's Hawk										1												1
Red-tailed Hawk	37	73	113	25	47	50	56	27	38	28	18	10	38	20	56	6	47	31	40	60	17	837
Rough-legged Hawk	10	10	9		3	3	11		3	1	3				7		11	7		1	3	82
Golden Eagle			1 imm																	1 ad		2
American Kestrel	13	9	15	8	11	6	33	2	7	12	10	4	15	11	15	3	11	5	14	14	23	241
Merlin			1							1 ed				1 ed	1 ed		1 gd			1		6
Peregrine Falcon																1	1			1 nc hc		3
Gray Partridge					11																	11
Ring-necked Pheasant	13	24 hc	17	2	9		14	2		64	30	41	64	3			10		11			304
Wild Turkey	2	156	142	28		3	69	12	4		14		48 hc	cw	93	8			15 hc			594
Northern Bobwhite			4			11	3				2		12	1			9		14	40	22 hc	118
Virginia Rail				**1 gd**																		1
American Coot												2	45	21			6		12			86
Sandhill Crane													1 nc									1
Killdeer			1										2		1		6		3	1		14
Spotted Sandpiper																			1 cw ed			
Common Snipe			7		3	1				1					9		5		1	5 hc		32
Bonaparte's Gull													2						50			52
Ring-billed Gull	1			15	61			8				5	294		145	1625	5	14	1500		1 hc	3674
California Gull																			1 cw ed			
Herring Gull	7			12	200		1					6	5		12	35			20			298
Thayer's Gull					1																	1
Lesser Black-backed Gull																			1			1
Glaucous Gull																						5
Great Black-backed Gull																1						1
Rock Dove	440	57	326	88	536	277	227	109	42	618	17	110	36	90	37	150	2	23	180	36	40 hc	3441
Mourning Dove	162	144	155	125	265	144	304	59	61	330	98	172	118	120	170	107	73	25	345	102	224	3303
Barn Owl											1 nd											1
Eastern Screech-Owl	3	cw	11	2	1	3	5	1	4	1	1	1			1		1	2	3	2		42
Great Horned Owl	4	1	14	3	4	4	7	1	4	7	7	2	4	4			5		2	6	1	80
Barred Owl		cw	4	3	4	7	2	3	3	3		3	4	3			1	1	4	3		48
Long-eared Owl	1								1													2
Short-eared Owl			1			1			3	1	1									cw		7

Illinois 2000
Christmas Bird Count North/Central Counts

			Northern	*Counts*									*Central*	*Counts*								
Species	VANP	SCHA	CL IA	PC IA	DA IA	ANDU	MU IA	MFRV	FGPR	CHAM	HMWD	BLOM	CLLK	DECA	CHIL	PEOR	CHAU	CRLK	SPFD	MERE	BUSH	TOTALS
Northern Saw-whet Owl			1					1														2
Belted Kingfisher	1	2		1	1		1	3	1	6		2	4	1	5		9		3			40
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	6		6	7	12	3	7	8	2	5	4	3	3	9	2	20		10	4	13	666
Red-bellied Woodpecker	14	42 h	43	23	54	47	64	31	73	50		23	43	34	86	18	69	48	80	84 hc	30	956
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		1			1					2	22	1		2			2	1	7	2		41
Downy Woodpecker	23	32	46	27	126	65	96	46	99	70	34	29	72	62	68	36	72	43	83	71	26	1226
Hairy Woodpecker		5 hc	7	10	17	8	22	6	11	7	5	1	5	5	11	7	6	14	9	8		164
Northern Flicker	3	5	5	3	9	6	8	6	5	17	6	3	22	10	11	9	33	19	24	32	1	237
Pileated Woodpecker		2	2		3	5	1	6	11					4			9	4	3	9		59
Eastern Phoebe										1 ed												1
Northern Shrike						1	1			1 gd												3
Blue Jay	117	193	218	89	152	122	267	75	172	163	67	55	230	83	256	30	382	70	218	157	103	3219
American Crow	1323	237	418	150	1292	248	440	97000	18652	323	87	1517	203	824	413	119	545	254	4190	1110	299 hc	129644
Horned Lark	444	104	591	274	55	352	478	301	320	186	154	692	1861	422	277	15	1419 hc	626	431	765 hc	937 hc	10704
Carolina Chickadee								91	111	47												249
Black-capped Chickadee	69	96	263	99	251	196	176				30	62	83	148	281	40	134	41	123	104	21	2217
Tufted Titmouse	4	28 hc	28	17	43	22	60	42	131	37	8	18	31	97	99	29	39	16	99	50	11	909
Red-breasted Nuthatch										3				1	1		2			6		13
White-breasted Nuthatch	21	45	81	28	75	72	106	18	77	28	15	5	40	11	84	11	37	31	48	61	13	907
Brown Creeper	4		2	4	6	1	4	3	10	7	2	3	3	2	1		5	3	8	8		76
Carolina Wren				1	4		1	12	17	31	2	3	10	4	1	5	4	12	17	35		159
Winter Wren				1						3				1	1					2 hc		8
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1		1	2						5			6					4	16	3		38
Eastern Bluebird		13 hc	9			4	2	24	13	1			6		28		15	40	5	73 hc m	10	243
Hermit Thrush	1		2			1	1	1		2			1		2			4	5	8 hc		28
American Robin		cw	31		5	2	2	10	1	159		7	8	32	2		35	3	41	60		398
Gray Catbird															1 ed							1
Northern Mockingbird				1						1			2	4			8	1	4	6	2	29
Brown Thrasher																			1			1
European Starling	548	352	1495	461	2382	410	1640	521	636	10900	125	537	1165	3756	1286	328	1007	99	2338	651	1045	31682
American Pipit											1 nd								1			2
Cedar Waxwing	9	cw	8			80	20	46		412		30	2	10	105				43	95	42	902
Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler			2				1	1							1			6	1	8 hc		20
Spotted Towhee																			1			1
Eastern Towhee			1		1				2										1			5
American Tree Sparrow	388	358	561	228	499	95	1457	757	354	425	110	303	862	433	560	7	1163 hc	657	207	1157	319	10900
Field Sparrow				1					1	cw		1		3				2	cw	7		15
Chipping Sparrow										1 cw ed												
Savannah Sparrow			1							1			3					2	cw	7 hc		14
Le Conte's Sparrow																				9 rr ed hc		9
Fox Sparrow			1						1	6		1	1	2	3	1	2	1	1	3	1	24
Song Sparrow	12	7	28	29	119	21	80	48	43	143	16	94	62	18	58	2	147	77	106	251	42	1403
Lincoln's Sparrow			1																cw			1
Swamp Sparrow				27	3		9	11	1	9			1		3		10	8	6	36		124
White-throated Sparrow	6		15	5	34	32	8	32	11	142	2	51	18	84	58	16	53	16	205	50	3	841
Harris's Sparrow												1						1 gd		2 hc ed			4
White-crowned Sparrow	8		3	1	1	1		1	1	7	2		8	23	14		6	28	6	100	25 hc	235
Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco		43											2								13	58
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco	640	797	896	757	804	391	1599	679	495	303	244	458	1205 hc	269	696	162	1212	254	477	725 hc	409	13472
Lapland Longspur	37		308	10		38	40	7	4	64		414	132	9			1	176	83	303	109 hc	1735
Snow Bunting	47	cw	111	2		52	22	4	13		4	41	25 hc		13		1	19	13	4 hc	9 hc	380
Northern Cardinal	81	162	225	115	328	226	362	119	233	294	76	104	214	129	252	83	223	81	274	218	135	3934
Red-winged Blackbird			2	30	337		9	5	6	5	4	50	120	cw	2	1	173		21	64	1	830
Eastern Meadowlark							1			27		4	19	3			1	20	cw	8	41 hc	124
Western Meadowlark													1									1
Rusty Blackbird		cw							1	6	1	2	5		2		10	2	3	2		34
Brewer's Blackbird													2	2 gd								4
Common Grackle			33		43	4	1		3	217	138	2	190	62	1	5	171		103	5	3 hc	981
Brown-headed Cowbird		cw	9	3	25	13	34	1	3	300	10		43	1	1		10	1	2	1		457
Purple Finch	2	17		8		19	33	1	5	44	9	3		5	6	cw	18	2	2	16		190
House Finch	81	20	54	57	206	28	44	102	83	138	32	51	85 hc	79	66	64	1	10	314 hc	12	20	1547
Red Crossbill																	97 HC			4 hc		101
Pine Siskin		1	2		12						2		33	1							1	52
American Goldfinch	72	83	114	92	169	47	134	178	88	100	68	41	77	74	312	102	121	64	171	189	52	2348
House Sparrow	419	601	903	555	1611	1118	1499	462	504	1139	300	362	1204	415	1032	389	386	232	745	405	2173 hc	16454
Eurasian Tree Sparrow						8	86				24						270	468	25	920	151 hc	1952
duck sp.									1													1
Buteo sp.										1												1
gull sp.																					1	1
chickadee sp.										1												1
Spizella sp.												1										1
meadowlark sp	4		1				2															7
Total individuals	5642	3767	8565	4977	11831	4492	11206	114696	23357	17517	1986	7097	27590	10106	7508	3497	12369	3739	16642	9882	6628	313094
Total species	54	36	66	55	62	54	64	58	55	65	49	56	85	61	63	39	78	57	93	77	45	

2000 Illinois Christmas Bird Count Central/Southern Counts

		Central									*Southern*	*Counts*							Statewide
Species	RUSH	WMER	QUIN	LINC	NEWT	BIRD	BALK	RDLK	JACK	CROR	CYCR	CALK	UNION	HSLK	MRLK	COLL	WRBV	PEMR	Totals
Pied-billed Grebe					12		7		15	10					7	10			118
Horned Grebe							34												37
Eared Grebe																			1
American White Pelican																		1	1
Double-crested Cormorant			1				5	1	2		3 hc	1							60
Great Blue Heron		1	3	2	4	1	30	156	10	14	11	17	32	55	39	31	21	13	880
Black-crowned Night-Heron																			4
Black Vulture									cw		2			4	185 hc		2		193
Turkey Vulture				3	3	1			1	1	21	cw		9	127 hc		5		205
Greater White-fronted Goose								33		1			13	8	13				77
Snow Goose (blue form)							3012	11136 hc										237	14392
Snow Goose (form?)					1		2008			9	3	75	550	140	2201			475	20017
Snow Goose (white form)																			4
Ross's Goose								1						1					3
Canada Goose		15	79	164	9494	306	3249	21765	1660 hc	105000	2245	924	62000	92000	2358	764	181	360	398216
Mute Swan							4						2 hc						189
Trumpeter Swan																			7
Tundra Swan																			6
Wood Duck								2		5	5		4	37		1			73
Gadwall					36		12	2	6		1	2	10	17	3		8	8	477
American Wigeon									3			2	13	5	2	1			47
American Black Duck					21			37	4 hc			6	10	28	7				453
Mallard		2	154	2	207	14	60	15039	647 hc	5241	162	129	2500	6600	69	309	118	28	59928
Northern Shoveler					6					5		1	50	6				10	97
Northern Pintail					1								6	1					22
Green-winged Teal					125								8	1	2				172
Canvasback					2			10		2			1		2	4		12	67
Redhead															2			2	18
Ring-necked Duck					1200				9				87	60	97	4		6	1542
Greater Scaup					7							1 ed			27				82
Lesser Scaup					87			55	7	2		12	1	3	308	13	1		778
King Eider																			1
Surf Scoter																			1
Long-tailed Duck								cw											1
Bufflehead					115			26	17			1	4						265
Common Goldeneye		5			78		16	497	75 hc	8	4	623	37 hc		12	7		22	5691
Hooded Merganser					20		194	8	7 hc	6		13		3	9	11		1	467
Common Merganser		32	7		11		280	309	281 hc		1	700 hc	1	3		5			6318
Red-breasted Merganser									3			1							780
Ruddy Duck					28				11 hc	1			5		6	7			108
Bald Eagle	2	202 hc	43		3			16 hc	3	23	8	9	29	58	9	1	4	294	2288
Adults		114	25		1			7	2	16	6		15	25	5	1	3	101	1140
Immatures		45	18		2			9	1	7	2		13	30	3		1	111	934
unknown		43										9	1		1			82	209
Northern Harrier	1	1	2	3	31	6	7	23	6	8	109 HC	12	27	32 hc	22	6	9	6	413
Sharp-shinned Hawk		1	2			1		5		3	1	3	6	3	1	2	1		93
Cooper's Hawk		1	2	1	2	7	1	4	2	2	2	5	2	2	5	4	2		165
Northern Goshawk																			2
Red-shouldered Hawk		1		1				3	13	2	8	1	8	8	7		7		69
[Krider's Red-tailed Hawk]																1 nd			1
Red-tailed Hawk	7	28	33	13	21	22	30	59	42	25	77	76	58	56	71	30	21	36	2436
Rough-legged Hawk	1	5	8		3			2		3	2	6	2		3			5	210
Golden Eagle							cw						1						3
American Kestrel	3	3	19	12	11	15	11	35	21	10	41	23	23	19	38	26	12	4	782
Merlin																			11
Peregrine Falcon																			6
Gray Partridge																			11
Ring-necked Pheasant		28			1														588
Greater Prairie-Chicken					105 HC														105
Wild Turkey	72	15	4	8		34	4	35 hc	19 hc	38	108 HC		59	33 he	76	2	9	36	1413
Northern Bobwhite	32				12	68	5	45		24	51	14	37	35	55		8	6	510
Virginia Rail											cw								1
American Coot					12		45	2	13			1	7	1	8	16			668
Sandhill Crane																			1
Killdeer									1		4	1	1		3		1		29
Least Sandpiper														3 ed ph					3
Common Snipe		2	1								6		16	3	1			6	100
Bonaparte's Gull							14	cw			310 hc								376
Ring-billed Gull			5		105		292	34	35	200	611 hc	42	35	410	6328	1	269		15579
Herring Gull					50		5	1			23 hc	95	2	2	117				6252
Thayer's Gull												1							10
Iceland Gull																			1
Lesser Black-backed Gull												1			1				7
Glaucous Gull			1					1 ed											5
Great Black-backed Gull																			5

		Central									*Southern*	*Counts*							Statewide
Species	RUSH	WMER	QUIN	LINC	NEWT	BIRD	BALK	RDLK	JACK	CROR	CYCR	CALK	UNION	HSLK	MRLK	COLL	WRBV	PEMR	Totals
Rock Dove	9	48	22	24	75	25	31	95	129	22	54	34	77	30	951	173	33		14347
Ringed Turtle-Dove																			25
Eurasian Collared-Dove					11 HC						1	1			2				15
Mourning Dove	58	93	162	132	163	408	88	157	79	55	251	103	224	567	166	153	100	28	11731
Monk Parakeet																			90
Barn Owl											cw								1
Eastern Screech-Owl		4				2	1	4	8	1	1	1	27 hc	5	1	1	2		151
Great Horned Owl		3			1	2	6	11	6	2	14	4	6	9	2	4	3		250
Snowy Owl								cw											2
Barred Owl		6	1	2		2	5	3	3	2	14	1	2	3	3	1		3	118
Long-eared Owl								1				1							9
Short-eared Owl					21		cw	3			42 HC	8	1	1					91
Northern Saw-whet Owl																			3
Belted Kingfisher	1	2	2	cw	2		1	4	8	2	3	2	9	5	1		3		142
Red-headed Woodpecker	10	16	2	10	12	13	28	13	133	1	98	3	59	71	4	1	11	49	666
Red-bellied Woodpecker	34	42	44	13	51	28	40	42	133 hc	25	141	76	249	174	86	45	53	84	2972
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker					1		6	2	5 hc		20		28	6	10	2	5	3	135
Downy Woodpecker	36	37	39	16	23	43	37	32	121 hc	21	165	27	219	160	66	33	43	52	4036
Hairy Woodpecker	8	10	8	4	3	8	15	7	24 hc	2	28	10	41	21	22	1	3	7	636
Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker		8	5		11	18		30	60			15	120	86	49	15	44		793
Northern Flicker (form?)	9			2			10			24	111							44	209
Pileated Woodpecker	1	2	2	1		1	5	2	55 hc	5	31	1	72	27	14	2	19	15	318
Eastern Phoebe									2		6 hc	1	3		1		2		16
Loggerhead Shrike					3	4		1			4	1	2	2	5				22
Northern Shrike																			9
Blue Jay	232	147	178	77	229	220	86	277	213 hc	72	361	277	241	185	104	72	395	175	8342
American Crow	53	161	142	380	136	101	29	189	145	101	206 hc	283	193	78	58	1207	196	125	151728
Horned Lark	5	909 hc	283	1013	836	285	191	2710 hc	302	173	2022 hc	2095 hc	1125	666	814	1077	418 hc	494	32317
Carolina Chickadee				18	55	135	76	85	252	47	304	97	358	219	117	78	109		2199
Black-capped Chickadee	73	107	33															87	7149
Tufted Titmouse	60	31	35	28	61	23	57	66	157	27	184	51	173	136	117	31	86	52	2519
Red-breasted Nuthatch								1	1	1	5		5				7		106
White-breasted Nuthatch	43	56	31	17	26	25	22	13	79	3	138	11	164	80	34	3	59	25	2584
Brown Creeper		1	1				3	11	6	2	25	2	26	34	16		5	3	346
Carolina Wren	2	1		2	4	11	3	12	21	6	63	18	26	34	24	2	8	4	413
Winter Wren				1		1		2	4 hc	1	20	1	9	28	10		3		93
Golden-crowned Kinglet					1		5	41	28	16	109	12	30	17	15	1	6		329
Ruby-crowned Kinglet								3			32 hc		3		1				39
Eastern Bluebird		7	19		24	40	12	32	50	32	80	4	92	68	66	4	79	16	908
Hermit Thrush						1	6	2	14 hc	2	13	1	52	27	4	3	8	1	186
American Robin		25	4			19	2	93	41	14	53	3	151	45	17	18	18	11	4508
Gray Catbird									1 ed hc						1 ed				4
Northern Mockingbird			3	1	6	24	3	16	36	15	42	4	10	32	43	22	12	2	303
Brown Thrasher			1			6	2	3	6 hc	3	15 hc	4 hc	2	15	3	1	5	2	71
European Starling	42	351	395	401	197	1709	96	7052	1371	1120	1852	1665	1200	1500	3969	537	525	640	91236
American Pipit																			2
Cedar Waxwing	2	70	6				5	32	3		13	5	7			4			4072
Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler								3	33	4	43		84	57	23		22		300
Pine Warbler								1 hc ed			1 ed		1						3
Spotted Towhee																			1
Eastern Towhee					3	9	5	11	5	6	25	4	13	9	19		21	2	142
American Tree Sparrow	49	501	282	3	380	206	116	252	152 hc	71	409 hc	286	338	417 hc	442	206	110 hc	254	23686
Field Sparrow						2	4	12	10	22	60	11	14	146	31	2	25	1	364
Vesper Sparrow														1 ed					1
Savannah Sparrow (form?)					61		1	7			108 hc	32 hc	5	42	38	1	1		311
Le Conte's Sparrow					6			2			34 hc ed	7 hc	2	1	5				67
Fox Sparrow			1	1	4	1	1	20	6	3	23	3	10	14	15	10	4	11	188
Song Sparrow	15	97	50	34	109	67	54	286	70	53	877 hc	479	588	532	258	154	143	76	6029
Lincoln's Sparrow											1				2 ed ph				4
Swamp Sparrow	1	1			43			55	30	1	656 hc	83	183	313	134	1	1	12	1708
White-throated Sparrow	1	3	11	8	19	54	214	253	330	62	668	226	570	1116	326	135	174	174	6081
Harris's Sparrow			6 hc ed									1 ed	1 ed			1 ed ph			14
White-crowned Sparrow	9	8	15	11	38	60	49	70	68	6	367 HC	72	91	100	240	88	28	43	1706
Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco								1 hc								2			68
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco	472	1529 hc	664	526	365	440	136	932 hc	564	318	861	711 hc	775	710	642	407	620	618	38506
Dark-eyed Junco (form?)																			1
Lapland Longspur		260 hc	3		48	15	2	213 hc	19		398 hc	253	95	8	31	73	20 hc	11	4289
Snow Bunting		23	3 nc hc		1 nc	35 hc						1				4		2	1287
Northern Cardinal	208	208	235	116	193	370	186	407	421	123	745	368	569	559	474	233	242	230	13950
Red-winged Blackbird	1	46			15	7	806	156040	2540	181	2793	5	21000	2500	8877	374	41	285	197328
Eastern Meadowlark	4		32	52	127	126	12	115	4	5	351	60	30	79	165	1	95	3	1413
Western Meadowlark																			1
Yellow-headed Blackbird															1 ed ph				1
Rusty Blackbird					4	3	3	45	30 hc	50	27		81	9	77		1	7	431
Brewer's Blackbird											1 ed		1 ud						8

2000 Illinois Christmas Bird Count Central/Southern Counts

		Central									*Southern*	*Counts*							Statewide
Species	RUSH	WMER	QUIN	LINC	NEWT	BIRD	BALK	RDLK	JACK	CROR	CYCR	CALK	UNION	HSLK	MRLK	COLL	WRBV	PEMR	Totals
Common Grackle	6		2	cw	31	490	424	177622	645	2639	3043	10	2100	2500	1541	113	625	19	193749
Brown-headed Cowbird			2	cw	2	7	375	710	799 hc	97	530	11	1300	900	2716	2	221		9383
Purple Finch	12	40	25	1	2	15		4	1	2	24	1	4		18	1	39		476
House Finch	36	101	33	59	25	84	46	22	103	3	257	68	105	28	115	32	122	14	5973
Red Crossbill																			133
Common Redpoll																			3
Pine Siskin						2			1		2		3			3	1		97
American Goldfinch	343	153	260	110	101	171	81	75	201	15	219	184	361	229	173	61	99	141	8629
House Sparrow	197	1090	412	454	583	519	316	162	194	18	300	1800 hc	350	400	227	239	42	237	41326
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	108	324	54													58		24	2520
scoter sp.											6								6
duck sp.									200							70	12		2292
Accipiter sp.						3											1		6
Buteo sp.																			7
hawk sp.						2	3										2		10
large falcon sp.																		3	3
gull sp.																50			527
owl sp.																			2
shrike sp.																			1
chickadee sp.																			1
Spizella sp.																			1
sparrow sp.																			13
meadowlark sp.		27				1										1			42
blackbird sp.							30			20500					30000	400	10470	500	61900
Total individuals	**2258**	**6890**	**3872**	**3726**	**15926**	**6318**	**13060**	**397709**	**12835**	**136619**	**23169**	**12296**	**99327**	**114647**	**65607**	**7469**	**16121**	**6157**	**1517453**
Total species	**40**	**56**	**57**	**41**	**78**	**58**	**70**	**89**	**83**	**74**	**90**	**88**	**98**	**87**	**95**	**73**	**71**	**63**	

Richardson's race of the Canada Goose. Drawing by Michael L.P. Retter.

Field Notes

The 2000-2001 Winter Season

by Kelly J. McKay

The 2000-2001 winter season had much colder temperatures throughout Illinois compared with recent winters. In fact, December 2000 was one of the coldest and wettest in Illinois history. Possibly as a result, the number of species identified within the state dropped from 181 last winter to 162 this winter.

Statewide temperatures ranged from moderately below normal early in December to substantially below normal during the latter 2/3 of the month. Additionally, several storm fronts with strong winds ushered in many days with bitter sub-zero wind chills. A major winter storm on 11 December dropped nearly one foot of snow over the northern half of Illinois, while substantial amounts of freezing rain fell over much of southern Illinois. Two days later (13 December) another 3-6 inches of snow fell over most of the state, followed by a major ice storm on 15 December. Two additional winter storms produced accumulations of 3-5 inches and 4-8 inches of snow over much of Illinois on 18 and 28 December, respectively.

January was characterized by normal winter temperatures and extremely dry conditions. In fact, January 2001 was among the driest on record. Cold temperatures maintained the snow cover over most of the northern half of the state, while slightly warmer temperatures in the south eliminated most of the snow cover by the end of the month. Ice cover persisted on most water bodies through January.

Temperatures during February were seasonably cold, with the exception of a couple of warming trends. One of these warming periods (8 and 9 February) also produced heavy precipitation, with 1-2 inches of rain and freezing rain falling over most of the state. The only snowstorm in February produced 2-4 inches across central Illinois on 25 and 26 February. By the end of the month, snow and ice cover was greatly reduced or gone from most of Illinois and its waterways.

Despite the extremely cold temperatures in November and December, many species of fall migrants lingered well into the early winter. However, it seems that the number of individuals observed in this species was fewer than in recent years. In contrast, fewer than normal spring migrants appeared before the end of February. The wintering avian community was typical, along with several uncommon and accidental species. The winter's harsh weather, however, probably accounted for the decrease in abundance among many "semi-hardy" species, the noticeable delay in spring migration, as well as the substantial reduction in the number of observers and winter season observation accounts submitted this year.

This winter included reports of seven extraordinary species (King Eider, Barrow's Goldeneye, Western Gull, Barn Owl, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Varied Thrush, and Bohemian Waxwing), which required review by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee. Other interesting species requiring documentation included Red-necked Grebe, Black Scoter, Merlin, Virginia Rail, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Laughing Gull, Franklin's Gull, Eurasian Collared-Dove, American Pipit, Cape May Warbler, Pine Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, and Yellow-headed Blackbird. The only exotic and/or released species identified in the state was Trumpeter Swan.

Loons to Waterfowl

The "waterbird" group was represented by only 1 species of loon, 4 grebe species, the American White Pelican and Double-crested Cormorant, as well as 3 species of herons. Only three Common Loons were recorded in northeastern Illinois in early December. All 4 species of grebes were also scarce, with the exception of the 225 and 35 Pied-billed Grebes reported at Crab Orchard (2 December) and Lake Springfield (14 January), respectively. Only four Eared Grebes were recorded in early December in the south, along with a single Red-necked Grebe at Mermet Lake (8 February). A relatively small number of American White Pelicans were observed in the southern region during February, while the Double-crested Cormorant occurred in reduced numbers statewide. The Great Blue Heron was fairly abundant

statewide, along with a very small number of Great Egrets and Black-crowned Night-Herons. Relatively small numbers of both vulture species were recorded; three reports of Black Vultures came from the South along with scattered observations of Turkey Vultures statewide.

Waterfowl diversity in Illinois was good during the 2000-2001 winter season – 4 species of geese, 3 swans, 8 "puddle" ducks, and 15 species of "diving" ducks were observed. Once again, no statewide aerial waterfowl survey data were reported, which undoubtedly influenced the totals. Typically large concentrations of Snow and Canada Geese were found at their normal wintering locations in southern and central Illinois. Especially noteworthy were the 300,000 and 80,000 Snow Geese at Carlyle Lake (11 February and 28 January, respectively), along with 30,000 Canada Geese at Carlyle Lake, 20,000 at Rend Lake, and 10,000 at Clinton Lake. Near record wintering numbers of Ross's Geese were observed at Evergreen Lake (15 birds) and Union County Conservation Area (11 birds). The number of wintering Greater White-fronted Geese continues to increase statewide. A relatively normal number of Mute Swans were reported, primarily from the northeast, while only three Tundra Swans were observed in the Chicago vicinity. A single report of five Trumpeter Swans was made from Carlyle Lake (11-24 February). Most duck species seemed less abundant; however, as in recent years, "puddlers" appeared to be more abundant and widespread in the north, while common "divers" such as the Common Goldeneye and Common Merganser were considerably less abundant. The largest concentrations of ducks once again occurred at central and southern locations including: 75,000 Mallards at Carlyle Lake and 30,484 at Chautauqua National Wildlife Refuge, 25,000 Northern Pintail at Carlyle Lake, and 50,000 Canvasbacks on the Mississippi River in Hancock County. Exceptional species included two King Eiders (Lake Springfield and Vermilion County) and two Barrow's Goldeneyes (Evergreen Lake and Alton).

Eagles to Gulls

A total of 12 species of diurnal raptors were observed in Illinois. The cold temperatures provided optimum ice conditions on the Mississippi River attracting record numbers of Bald Eagle including two amazing reports of 1,857 in Whiteside and Rock Island counties (11-15 January) and 1,562 in Hancock, Henderson, and Mercer counties (17 January). More extensive ice cover along Illinois' smaller tributary rivers, however, reduced eagle numbers there. Northern Harriers, Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, Red-shouldered, and Rough-legged Hawks occurred in relatively good numbers and were widespread across the state. Concentrations of harriers were not as large as last year. Small numbers of Northern Goshawks (4), Golden Eagles (2), and Merlins (5) occurred, along with the small resident population of Peregrine Falcons (primarily in the Chicago area). Although fairly abundant and widespread, I believe Red-tailed Hawks and American Kestrels are probably still under-reported across Illinois.

Four species of upland gamebirds were recorded during the 2000-2001 winter, with the Wild Turkey being the most

The following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

MC = Maximum Count(s)	ad. = adult	pr. = pair	R = River	SF = State Forest
* = documented record	subad. = subadult	m.ob. = many observers	Rd. = Road	SP = State Park
< = reported as fall migrant departure	imm. = immature	Co(s) = County (Counties)	L&D = Lock and Dam	NWR = National Wildlife Refuge
> = reported as spring migrant arrival	1st/2nd/3rd = first-year/second-year/third-year plumage	P = Park	CA = Conservation Area	
		L = Lake	FP = Forest Preserve	

Bald.L	= Baldwin L (St. Clair, Randolph Cos)	Little Cal.R	= Little Calumet R (southern Cook Co)
Bloom.	= Bloomington (McLean Co)	La Salle L	= La Salle L (La Salle Co)
Carl.L	= Carlyle L (Clinton, Fayette Cos)	Loud Thunder FP	= Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co)
Chau	= Chautauqua NWR (Mason Co)	MArb	= Morton Arboretum (Du Page Co)
Chi	= Chicago (Cook Co)	Mermet L	= Mermet L (Massac Co)
Clin.L	= Clinton L (DeWitt Co)	Miss.R	= Mississippi River (various Cos)
CrabOr	= Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co)	Montrose	= Montrose Harbor and vicinity, Chicago (Cook Co)
Evergrn L	= Evergreen L (McLean, Woodford Cos)	Pekin	= Pekin area, including Peoria L&D (Peoria, Tazewell Cos)
Fermi	= Fermilab National Accelerator Laboratory (Du Page Co)		
GrtLakes	= Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co)	Rend L	= Rend L (Franklin, Jefferson Cos)
HL	= Horseshoe L (Madison Co)	Rock Falls	= Rock Falls (Whiteside, Lee Cos)
HLCA	= Horseshoe L CA (Alexander Co)	(L) Spfld	= (Lake) Springfield (Sangamon Co)
IBSP	= Illinois Beach SP (Lake Co)	SandRdg	= Sand Ridge SF (Mason Co)
JP	= Chicago's Jackson Park (Cook Co)	SRock SP	= Starved Rock SP and L&D (La Salle Co)
Klehm Arb	= Klehm Arboretum (Winnebago Co)	UCCA	= Union County CA (Union Co)
LCal	= L Calumet and vicinity (southern Cook Co)	Urbana	= Champaign-Urbana (Champaign Co)

When information on counts greater than one individual, sexes, and/or ages of observed birds is available, it is included at the head of the observation account. This information is followed by the location of the observation, date(s) of observation, and the observer(s) who made the report. Noteworthy dates of occurrence and remarkably high counts for the state as a whole, or for particular regions of the state, are **underlined and boldfaced.** The most significant editorial remarks on the status of records are **boldfaced**. Species of extremely unusual occurrence in Illinois during the winter appear in **CAPITALIZED, BOLDFACED** fonts. Headings for species requiring IORC review are **CAPITALIZED, UNDERLINED, AND BOLDFACED**; records of these species are included in the main summary if already reviewed and accepted by IORC, and otherwise at the end of this report. Undocumented reports of species requiring IORC review are omitted.

New in this summary is the use of symbols appended to dates to flag records reported to the compiler as migrant departures/arrivals; see "<" and ">" in the table of abbreviations above. Interpretive information of this sort, when supplied by locally active observers, can assist greatly in differentiating apparent migration limits from potential overwintering data in the long-term Illinois record.

The second (1996) edition of the DeLorme Illinois Atlas & Gazetteer has been followed for normalization of site names.

abundant and widespread. Northern Bobwhite and Ring-necked Pheasant were scattered and relatively scarce, with the bobwhite concentrated in the south and central regions, while the pheasant was restricted primarily to the north. In fact, no pheasants were reported from southern Illinois. For the first time in three years, the Gray Partridge was identified in Illinois during the winter season (two reports from the north). Due to the lack of aerial waterfowl survey data, American Coot numbers were once again relatively small and scattered. The harsh winter undoubtedly resulted in a substantial reduction in the number of Sandhill Cranes reported compared with last year--only three reports. A single Virginia Rail was found in Rock Island County (19 December).

Five species of shorebirds were identified; among these was a somewhat reduced number of Killdeer, while Common Snipe was abundant and widespread. Four Least Sandpipers were located in southern Illinois, while a single late migrant Dunlin was observed at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center (1 December). All reports of American Woodcock were of spring migrants observed in February.

A total of 11 gull species were identified. The highlights included a second year Western Gull at Starved Rock State Park (7 January), along with at least one adult Laughing Gull in Madison County (throughout January), and a Franklin's Gull at Rend Lake (12 February). In general, gull numbers appeared to be substantially reduced in 2000-2001, especially among the typical wintering species. Once again, cold temperatures and extensive ice cover were probably responsible for the decrease in gull abundance, similar to the lesser numbers detected among many species of "waterbirds" and waterfowl. Notable exceptions included: 3000 Bonaparte's Gulls at Crab Orchard (2 December), 50,000 Ring-billed Gulls at Carlyle Lake (11 February), as well as 14,500 and 10,000 Herring Gulls at Starved Rock State Park (12 January and 22 December, respectively).

Doves to Kinglets

Three species of doves and 8 species of owls were recorded in the state during the 2000-2001 winter season. Among the more common species (Rock and Mourning Doves, and Eastern Screech-Owl, and Great Horned and Barred Owls, relatively low numbers were reported. These more common species may have simply been overlooked and under-reported. For example, Great Horned and Barred Owls were only reported once in southern Illinois. The Eurasian Collared-Dove appears to have a fairly low but stable population in select locales in central and southern regions, while the Monk Parakeet seems well-established in Chicagoland. Long-eared and Short-eared Owls occurred in their normal scarce and scattered numbers across the state. Once again, it was a fairly poor winter for invading northern owls. A small number of Northern Saw-whet Owls were reported (primarily in the north), along with five Snowy Owls. One of these Snowies was found in southern Illinois at Rend Lake. Only one Barn Owl was reported in the state this winter (Union County). Belted Kingfishers occurred in smaller numbers, which were scattered this winter, probably restricted by lack of open water.

In 2000-2001, 8 species of woodpeckers, 1 flycatcher, and both shrikes were observed. This included a single Red-cockaded Woodpecker which was reported at Illinois Beach State Park (10 December). See Meadowlark 10:2 for an account of this federally endangered species visiting Illinois. Once more, I suspect the common woodpeckers (Red-bellied, Downy, and Hairy) are all greatly overlooked and under-reported throughout the state. Red-headed Woodpeckers occurred in slightly smaller numbers, while Northern Flickers seemed to slightly increase. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and Pileated Woodpeckers were observed in their normal scarcity. Only three Eastern Phoebes were reported, along with substantially fewer Loggerhead Shrikes. Northern Shrikes were found in fewer numbers this season compared with the invasion that occurred last year.

Horned Larks occurred in large flocks statewide. However, the substantial snow cover may account for these large numbers, in that larks were forced to the roadsides and were therefore much more visible (see Johnson 2001 in this issue: Christmas Bird Count). The numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches and Brown Creepers were substantially fewer. A single migrant Tree Swallow was reported in Massac County (27 February).

Overall, the common permanent residents (corvids, Tufted Titmouse, chickadees, White-breasted Nuthatch, European Starling, Northern Cardinal, House Finch, and House Sparrow) were reported in relatively very low numbers.

Thrushes to Sparrows

During the 2000-2001 winter, 4 thrushes, 2 mimic thrushes, and 3 warbler species were recorded. Among these, the highlights included two Varied Thrushes, and single Cape May and Pine Warblers. See Field Notes for details. Eastern Bluebirds and Hermit Thrushes appeared to be somewhat more abundant this winter, while American Robins occurred in fairly normal numbers. All three of these species however seemed to be concentrated, where they were encountered, probably due to lack of food. The two mimic thrushes, Northern Mockingbird and Brown Thrasher, were found in relatively normal numbers, primarily in the south, while the Yellow-rumped Warbler was somewhat less abundant as compared to last year. Only two reports of American Pipits were recorded this winter, while both fairly normal numbers of Cedar Waxings were reported.

Eastern Towhees were slightly less abundant this winter, and were concentrated primarily in the southern region. A total of 13 sparrow species were recorded, of which the highlight was a remarkable four Chipping Sparrows. Three additional species occurred in very low numbers across the sate including: 1 Vesper Sparrow in Winnebago County, 3 Lincoln's Sparrows, and 6 Harris's Sparrows. Song, White-throated, and White-crowned Sparrows were slightly more abundant and widespread across Illinois, while Fox and Swamp Sparrows were slightly less common compared to last year. Four species of sparrows occurred in fairly normal numbers. Of these, the Field, Savannah, and Le Conte's Sparrows were largely reported from the south, while the American Tree Sparrow was primarily concentrated in the north. The latter species was undoubtedly under-reported.

Buntings to Finches

Dark-eyed Juncos, Lapland Longspurs, and Snow Buntings were widespread and reported in fairly good num-

bers, particularly through the northern 2/3 of the state. As with Horned Larks, the heavy snow cover forced longspurs and Snow Buntings to the roadsides, making them much easier to observe. Overall, 8 species of blackbirds and 5 finches were recorded. The highlight was the four Yellow-headed Blackbirds reported from the south. Additionally, two Western Meadowlarks were observed in Winnebago County (16 December). In contrast to Eastern Meadowlarks which increased slightly, most blackbird species experienced substantial declines in numbers reported during the 2000-2001 winter. Notable exceptions included 125,150 Red-winged Blackbirds and 142,457 Common Grackles observed at Rend Lake (23 December). Furthermore, few reports of spring migrants occurred before the end of February. Among the "winter finches," Purples decreased slightly, while more substantial declines were noted for Red Crossbills and Pine Siskins compared to last year's minor invasion. Purple Finches were restricted to the northern 2/3 of Illinois, while Red Crossbills and Pine Siskins were found almost exclusively in the north section. The American Goldfinch was recorded in fairly normal numbers. Fewer Eurasian Tree Sparrows were observed this year as compared to the previous winter.

Acknowledgments

The foundation of this summary is the detailed information regarding avian wintering populations as submitted directly to the compiler, or indirectly via the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, by field observers throughout the state. Maximum counts are provided, where available, from each of the three regions of Illinois (north, central, and south) as mapped out in Bohlen's (1978) Annotated Check-list of the Birds of Illinois. Additional data reflecting the progress of the season are noted, when available, for species and areas of special interest. The species accounts follow the taxonomy and nomenclature of the seventh (1998) edition of the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds and its supplements.

I gratefully acknowledge the helpful recommendations and assistance provided by Paul Clyne and Sheryl DeVore in the preparation of this manuscript. I would like to especially thank all the contributors who made this report possible. These observers are credited for each record, and cited observers are listed here by initials/citation forms: Alan Anderson, Cindy Alberico, Ed Anderson, Bill Bertrand, Corey Blevins, Dennis Bozzay, Frank Bennett, H. David Bohlen, John Bivins, Lewis Blevins, Margaret Baker, Richard Biss, Steven D. Bailey, Sue Bivins, Torre Berger, Dale Birkenholz (DBi), Richard & Sigurd Bjorklund (R&SBj), David Currie, Elizabeth Chato, Jeff Chapman, Karin Cassel, Melinda Born-Chapman, Paul Clyne, Robert Chapel, Scott Carpenter, Donald Dann, Glyn Dawson, Jan Eaton, Joshua I. Engel, Ralph Eiseman, Cindy Flener, Carolyn S. Fields, Donald Fish, Matt Fraker, Rick Frissora, Steve Freed, Darlene Fiske (DFi), Teresa Good, Urs Geiser, Brian Herriott, Frank Holmes, Genevieve Houghton, Harold Henson, Jim Hampson, Larry Hood, Robert Hughes, Scott Hickman, Wayne Hochstetler, Steve Hagar, Carole Jackley, Char Knudten, Dan Kassebaum, Todd Katz, Dennis Lane, Greg Lambeth, Richard LaSalle, Sandie Loechle, Vickie Lang, Don Moeller, Keith McMullen, Kelly J. McKay, Rhonda Monroe, Tim Murphy, Thomas U. May, Walter Marcisz, Cynthia & John McKee (C&JMc), Randy·Nyboer, Helen Parker, Justin Rink, Marjory Rand, Michael L. Retter, Tim Rathjen, William Rowe, Alan Stokie, Dave Sherer, Douglas F. Stotz, Darrell Shambaugh, Janelle Swanberg, James O. Smith, Leonard Stanley, Michael Sherer, Pam Sullivan, Paul W. Sweet, Jason Starfire (JSt), Alice Topping, Craig Taylor, Ernie Topping, Laurel Temmen, Chris Wood, Dan Wenny, Daniel T. Williams, Eric Walters, Geoffrey Williamson, Jeff Walk, Ken Wysocki, James Ziebol, Ray Zoanetti.

Winter 2000-2001 Field Notes

Common Loon
2, IBSP, 2 Dec (AS); Montrose, 7 Dec (GW).

Pied-billed Grebe
MC: 225, CrabOr, 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB) — record Dec high count for Illinois; **35**, L Spfld, **14 Jan** (KM). **Others**:Seneca (La Salle Co), 17 Dec (DJS); 6, Bald.L, 2 Jan (DK); St. Charles (Kane Co), 13 & 20 Jan (AS, AA, UG); Chi, 2 Feb (AA); La Salle L, 4 Feb (C&JMc); HL, 25 Feb> (FH).

Horned Grebe
MC : 15, CrabOr, 2 Dec (KM). **Others**: 3, Carl.L, 9 Dec< (KM); Rockford (Winnebago Co), 30 Dec (DTW); Bald.L, 2 Jan (DK); La Salle L, 20 Jan (C&JMc); HL, 26 Feb> (KM).

Red-necked Grebe
Mermet L, 8 Feb (*FB).

Eared Grebe
CrabOr, 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB); 3, Carl.L, 10 Dec (*DK).

American White Pelican
MC : 100, Alton (Madison Co), 13 Feb (LH); 27, Bald.L, 7 Feb> (KM). **Others**: 7, Alton (Madison Co), 2 Feb (JOS); 7, Sante Fe Bottoms (Clinton Co), 10 Feb (DK).

Double-crested Cormorant
MC : **400**, Rend L, 12 Feb> (KM); 21, La Salle L, **4 Feb** (C&JMc); **10**, Little Cal.R, **30 Dec** (WM, KW, MB); **10**, La Salle L, **20 Jan** (C&JMc). **Others**: Gillson P (Cook Co), 3 Dec (AS); IBSP, 9 Dec (AS); 7, Carl.L, 14 Dec, (DK); 2, L&D #14 (Rock Island Co), 17 Dec (KJM); 2, SRock SP, 27 Dec - 31 Jan (DJS); Rock Falls, 30 Dec (KJM); 2, Bald.L, 2 Jan (DK); L Spfld, 14 Jan< (KM).

Great Blue Heron
MC : 124, Chau, 7 Dec (R&SBj); 35, Carl.L, 9 Dec (DK); 34, Clear L (Mason Co), 8 Dec (R&SBj); 33, HL, 22 Jan (JZ); 28, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 6, Yorkville (Kendall Co), 24 Dec (DJS); 6, SRock SP, 7 Jan (DJS). **Others** (northern half of state): 6, Seneca (La Salle Co), 17 Dec (DJS); near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); Little Cal.R, 26 Dec (WM); Rock Falls, 30 Dec (KJM); Urbana, 1 Jan (RC); Evanston (Cook Co), 4 Jan (EW, m.ob.); 2, Hidden L FP (Du Page Co), 14 Jan (UG); Lake Co, 1 Feb (SH).

Great Egret
HL, 7 Dec< (FH); Rend L, 16 Dec (VL, RM); 2, Sand Prairie Lane (Madison Co), 20 Dec (TB — possibly including bird of 7 Dec).

Black-crowned Night-Heron
MC : 4, Chau, 7 Dec< (R&SBj). **Others**: Winnebago Co, 1 Dec (DTW); GrtLakes, 9 Dec (SH); imm., Lockport (Will Co), 7 Jan (UG); Lincoln P, Chi, 17 Jan (GW).

Black Vulture
14, Johnson Co, 2 Dec (KM, FB, DK); 13, Carbondale Reservoir (Jackson Co), 2 Jan (GH); Murphysboro (Jackson Co), 6 Jan (RL).

Turkey Vulture
5, Johnson Co, 2 Dec (KM, FB, DK); Clin.L, 15 Dec (*RC, GL); 2, Marseilles (La Salle Co), 17 Dec (C&JMc); Urbana, 1 Jan (*RC); 3, Carl.L, 6 Jan (DK); Madison Co, 1 Feb (MBC); Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 19 Feb> (KJM).

Greater White-fronted Goose
MC : **1100**, Pulaski Co, 12 Feb> (KM); 680, Clinton Co, 22 Feb> (KM); 145, Arcola (Douglas Co), 25 Feb> (RC); 140, Evergrn L, 20 Feb (MLR, JSt); 30, Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 10 Feb (CA). **Others**: 6, SandRdg, 25 Jan (R&SBj); 13, Clin.L, 4 Feb (RC); 44, Franklin Co, 7 Feb (LS); 15, La Salle L, 17 Feb (C&JMc); 24, La Salle (La Salle Co), 20 Feb> (JH); 70, HL, 25 Feb (FH).

Snow Goose
MC : **300,000**, Carl.L, 11 Feb (DK) — record winter high count excluding aerial surveys; **80,000**, Carl.L, 28 Jan (DK); 2500, Pesotum (Champaign Co), 25 Feb> (RC); 2025 (1135 white morph, 890 blue morph), Chau, 8 Feb (R&SBj); 21 (5 white morph, 16 blue morph), Wildwood (Lake Co), 27 Feb (SH). **Others**: 4, Heyworth (McLean Co), 8 Dec (MLR, RF); 10,000, near Matthews (Perry Co), 3 Feb (RM, m.ob.); 2, Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 10 Feb (CA); 16,000, UCCA, 12 Feb (KM); 700, HL, 16 Feb (FH); 500, Heyworth (McLean Co), 20 Feb (MLR, JSt).

Ross's Goose
MC : **15**, Evergrn L, 24-25 Feb> (RC, MLR); 11, UCCA, 12 Feb (KM). **Others**: HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 2, Mermet L, 27 Jan (FB); 2, Carl.L, 28 Jan (DK); 2, Madison Co, 28 Feb (FH); Franklin Co, 28 Feb (LS).

Canada Goose
MC : **30,000**, Carl.L, 28 Jan (DK); **20,000**, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM, RZ); 10,000, Clin.L, 4 Feb (RC); 7500, Evergrn L, 25 Feb (MLR); 1002, Miss.R (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 993, JP, 20 Feb (KC). **Others**: 500, Oregon (Ogle Co), 9 Dec (EW); 2200 (including 200 "Richardson's"), Bloom., 10 Dec (MLR); 244, near Thomson (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 40, Marietta (Fulton Co), 16 Dec (LH); 2000, Vermilion Co, 12 Jan (JOS); 5011, Chau, 8 Feb (R&SBj); 2000, Heyworth (McLean Co), 20 Feb (MLR, JSt).

Mute Swan
MC : **119**, Wolf L, LCal, all winter (WM); 19, Little Cal.R, 30 Dec (WM); 4, L Spfld, 14 Jan (KM); Carl.L, 14 Dec (DK). **Others**: 3, St. Charles (Kane Co), 20 Jan (AA, UG); 4, Plainfield (Will Co), 3 Feb (UG); 3, Yorkville (Grundy Co), 3 Feb (UG); 5, JP, 8 Feb> (PC, KC).

Tundra Swan
Lake Villa (Lake Co), 10 Dec< (RB); 2, Caldwell Woods FP (Cook Co), 7 Feb (AA).

Wood Duck
MC : 56, Rockford (Winnebago Co), 6 Dec (DTW); 12, UCCA, 2 Dec (KM, FB, DK); 5, Vermilion Co, 8 Feb (JOS). **Others**: male, Oregon (Ogle Co), 9 Dec (EW); female, Little Cal.R, 30 Dec (WM); male, Hampton (Rock Island Co), 8 Jan (KJM); L Spfld, 14 Jan (KM); male, St. Charles (Kane Co), 20 Jan (UG); HL, 10 Feb> (FH); male, JP, 19 Feb> (BH, PC); 2, Evergrn L, 23 Feb (MLR); 5, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK).

Gadwall
MC : 400, Carl.L, 25 Feb (DK); 310, HL, 26 Feb (KM); 33, La Salle L, 20 Jan (C&JMc). **Others**: 14, LCal, 9 Dec (WM); 11, Little Cal.R, 9 Dec (WM); 4, Heyworth (McLean Co), 10 Dec (MLR); 5 (3 male, 2 female), Chi, 18 Dec (AA); 17, near L&D #16 (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); 9, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK); 12, Channahon (Will Co), 27 Jan (DFS); pr., JP, 12 Feb> (SC); 4, Chau, 23 Feb> (R&SBj); 6 (3 pr.), JP, 25 Feb (PC, BH).

American Wigeon
MC : 300, Carl.L, 18 Feb (DK). **Others**: male, Little Cal.R, 9 Dec (WM); Bloom., 10 Dec (MLR); HL, 23 Dec< (FH); 4, Chau, 8 Feb> (R&SBj).

American Black Duck
MC : 299, Chau, 7 Dec (R&SBj); 36, La Salle L, 20 Jan (C&JMc); 30, Illinois R (Bureau Co), 9 Dec (DFS); 25, Rend L,

Trumpeter Swans. 17 December 2000. Lake Springfield. Sangamon Co. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

23 Dec (KM, RZ). **Others**: 4, Evanston (Cook Co), all winter, (EW); 5, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (KJM); 11, Blackwell FP (Du Page Co), 31 Dec (UG); 4, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK); 10, L Spfld, 14 Jan (KM); 7, Blackhawk FP (Kane Co), 20 Jan (UG); 3, Chevalier Woods FP (Cook Co), 19 Feb (AA).

Mallard
MC : **75,000**, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK); 30,484, Chau, 7 Dec (R&SBj); 15,000, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM, RZ); 7900, Illinois R (Bureau Co), 9 Dec (DFS); 4000, Bloom., 10 Dec (MLR); 2000, La Salle L, 20 Jan (C&JMc). **Others**: 60 (35 male, 25 female), JP, 6 Dec< (PC); 290, near Thomson (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 265, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (KJM, TM, SF); 865, Little Cal.R, 30 Dec (WM); 343, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 90, Carl.L, 13 Jan (DK); 180, Evanston (Cook Co), 20 Jan (EW); 57 (39 male, 18 female), JP, 8 Feb> (PC, BH); 50, Evergrn L, 25 Feb (MLR).

Northern Shoveler
MC : 65, HL, 26 Feb (KM); 23, Schaumburg (Cook Co), 9 Dec (AA). **Others**: 35, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK); near L&D #16 (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); Green Valley FP (Du Page Co), 11 Feb> (UG); 6, Clinton Co, 22 Feb> (KM).

Northern Pintail
MC : **25,000**, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK) — **record Illinois high count** excluding aerial survey data; 30, Evergrn L, 20 Feb (MLR, JSt); 15, Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 10 Feb (CA). **Others**: Bloom., 10 Dec (MLR); 14, Chau, 8 Feb> (R&SBj); 3, North Point Marina (Lake Co), 10 Feb (SH); pr., Hidden L FP (Du Page Co), 10 Feb> (UG); 120, Pulaski Co, 12 Feb> (KM); 3 (2 male,1 female), Miss.R (Madison Co), 13 Feb (LH); 10, La Salle L, 17 Feb (C&JMc).

Green-winged Teal
MC : 200, Carl.L, 25 Feb (DK). **Others**: 4, Pulaski Co, 2 Dec (KM, FB, DK); 2, near L&D #16 (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); pr., MArb, 6 Jan (EW, JlE); Ottawa (La Salle Co), 13 Jan (UG); male, Chi, 13 Jan (AA); 2 female, Channahon (Will Co), 27 Jan (DFS); HL, 29 Jan> (FH); male, Chau, 1 Feb> (R&SBj); 12, Miss.R (Madison Co), 13 Feb (LH); Clin.L, 24 Feb> (RC).

Canvasback
MC : **50,000**, Miss.R (Hancock Co), 24 Feb (KM, m.ob.) — **record Illinois high count** excluding aerial survey data; 3000, Carl.L, 25 Feb (DK); 10, SRock SP, 13 Feb> (JH). **Others**: Rockford (Winnebago Co), 6 Dec (DTW); female, Little Cal.R, 9 Dec (WM); 2, Joliet (Will Co), 7 Jan (UG); male, Chi, 13 Jan - 2 Feb (AA); 2, La Salle L, 20 Jan (C&JMc); male,St. Charles (Kane Co), 20 Jan (AA); 2 (male), Chau, 1 Feb> (R&SBj); 600, Rend L, 12 Feb> (LS); 4, Evergrn L, 25 Feb (MLR); Arcola (Douglas Co), 25 Feb> (RC).

Redhead
MC : 150, Carl.L, 11 Feb (DK). **Others**: 11, Carbondale (Jackson Co), 2 Dec< (KM, DK, FB); pr., JP, 9 Dec< (GD); male, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (KJM); female, Little Cal.R, 30 Dec (WM); 3, Carl.L, 17 Jan> (KM); male, Chi, 18 Jan (AA).

Ring-necked Duck
MC : 585, HL, 26 Feb (KM); 34, Little Cal.R, 30 Dec (WM,

KW); 32, Chau, 8 Feb (R&SBj). **Others**: male, JP, 6 Dec< (PC); Bloom., 10 Dec (MLR); 2, Lockport (Will Co), 7 Jan (UG); male, Chi, 11 Feb (AA); 150, Carl.L,24 Feb (DK).

Greater Scaup
MC : 250, Chi, 2 Dec (DFS); 101, JP, 8 Feb> (PC, KC); 7, Carl.L, 17 Jan (KM); 3, Spfld, 4 Feb (UG). **Others**: L Spfld, 14 Jan> (KM); 2, La Salle L, 20 Jan (C&JMc); HL, 29 Jan> (FH); Arcola (Douglas Co), 25 Feb> (RC).

Lesser Scaup
MC : 3000, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK); 2000, Miss.R (Hancock Co), 24 Feb (KM, m.ob.); 210, Little Cal.R, 26 Dec - 7 Feb (WM). **Others**: HL, 1 Dec< (FH); 26, LCal, 9 Dec (WM); 3, Heyworth (McLean Co), 10 Dec (MLR); male, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (KJM); Lockport (Will Co), 7 Jan (UG); 10, Chi, 13 Jan (AA); 10, Chau, 8 Feb> (R&SBj); 35, Evergrn L, 25 Feb (MLR).

HARLEQUIN DUCK
One inland record: female-plumage, South Elgin (Kane Co), 1 Jan (TR:photo).

Black Scoter
Pope Co, 8 Dec (FB); Carl.L, 10 Dec (*DK); Spfld, 4 Feb (UG).

Long-tailed Duck
MC : **33**, Waukegan (Lake Co), 13 Feb (CSF). **Others**: Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 3 Dec (DTW); 5 (4 male, 1 female), Waukegan (Lake Co), 9 Dec (SH, AS); Rend L, 16 Dec (RM); female, HL, 26 Feb> (KM).

Bufflehead
MC : 25, SandRdg, 23 Feb (R&SBj); 13 (4 male, 9 female/imm.), JP, 6 Dec< (PC); 10, Carbondale (Jackson Co), 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB). **Others**: 4 (3 male, 1 female/imm.), JP, all winter (PC); L Spfld, 9 Dec (LH); 6, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK); Cordova (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (KJM); female, SRock SP, 14 Jan (DJS); 9, Chi, 11 Feb (AA); 4, Clinton Co, 22 Feb> (KM).

Common Goldeneye
MC : 2000, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK); 1200, L Spfld, 14 Jan (KM); 850, Rend L, 12 Feb (KM); 335, Cordova (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (DM, KJM); 335, Evanston (Cook Co), 20 Jan (EW). **Others**: 10, Heyworth (McLean Co), 10 Dec (MLR); 146, JP, 16 Dec (GD); 284, Chi, 25 Dec (GW); 150, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (KJM); 350, Carl.L, 20 Jan (DK); 6, Evergrn L, 20 Feb (MLR, JSt); 85, SandRdg, 23 Feb (R&SBj).

Hooded Merganser
MC : 300, Bald.L, 2 Jan, (DK); 201, Chau, 8 Feb (R&SBj); 20, Channahon (Will Co), 27 Jan (DFS). **Others**: 150, Carl.L, 9 Dec (KM); 3, Vermilion Co, 27 Dec (JOS); 15, Little Cal.R, 30 Dec (WM, KW, MB); 2 (female), Rock Falls, 30 Dec (KJM); 2, Joliet (Will Co), 7 Jan (UG); 3, SRock SP, 14 Jan (DJS); 5, La Salle L, 20 Jan (C&JMc); 3 (2 male, 1 female), Evanston (Cook Co), 20 Jan (EW); 2, Geneva (Kane Co), 20 Jan (UG); HL, 2 Feb> (FH); 4, Evergrn L, 23 Feb (MLR).

Common Merganser
MC : 4000, La Salle L, 20 Jan (C&JMc); 2050, SRock SP, 15 Jan (DFS); 600, Carl.L, 3 Feb (DK); 500, L Spfld, 25 Jan (KM); 392, Chau, 15 Feb (R&SBj); 365, HL, 26 Feb (KM). **Others**: 8, Heyworth (McLeanCo), 8 Dec (MLR, RF); 876, Cordova (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (KJM); HL, 23 Dec< (FH); 2, St. Charles (Kane Co), 20 Jan (AA); 259, JP, 28 Jan (PC, BH); 200, LCal, 17 Feb (WM); 25, Evergrn L, 25 Feb (MLR); 500, Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 26 Feb (JC); 150, GreenValley FP (Du Page Co), 26 Feb (JC).

Red-breasted Merganser
MC : 1550, Grant P, Chi, 2 Dec (DFS); 500, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK). **Others**: 20, Carbondale (Jackson Co), 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB); Cordova (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (KJM); 176, Chi, 25 Dec (GW); HL, 7 Jan (FH); 82, JP, 28 Jan (PC, BH); 50, Rend L, 12 Feb (KM); pr., La Salle L, 17 Feb (C&JMc).

Ruddy Duck
MC : 65, L Spfld, **14 Jan** (KM); 10, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK); 4, Chi, 9 Dec (WM). **Others**: HL, 1 Dec< (FH); 2, L&D #13 (Whiteside Co), 14 Dec (KJM); Rockford (Winnebago Co), 30 Dec - 5 Jan (DTW); 2, Little Cal.R, 17 Feb (WM); male, Clear L (Mason Co), 23 Feb> (R&SBj); male, JP, 28 Feb> (DC).

Bald Eagle
MC : **1857** (1070 ad., 779 imm., 8 others), L&D #13 to L&D #16 (Whiteside, Rock Island Cos), 11-15 Jan (KJM); **1562** (793 ad., 758 imm., 11 others), Miss.R (Hancock, Henderson, Mercer Cos), 17 Jan (KJM); 68 (32 ad., 36 imm.), Illinois R from Havana to Beardstown (Mason, Cass Cos), 13 Jan (HP, m.ob.); 55, SRock SP, 31 Dec (DJS); 13 (5 ad., 8 imm.), Rend L, 23 Dec (KM, RZ). **Others**: 3 (2 ad.,1 imm.), McDonough Co, 16 Dec (LH); 6, Carl.L, 19 Dec (DK); 3 (imm.), Durand (Winnebago Co), 1 Jan (DTW); imm., Waukegan (Lake Co), 1 Jan (GW); 14 (4 ad., 10 imm.), near Byron (Ogle Co), 11 Jan (DTW); 3 (1 ad., 2 imm.), Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 10 Feb (CA); ad. (building nest), near L&D #26 (Madison Co), 13 Feb (LH); 12, Pekin, 17 Feb (AA); 48, Depue L (Bureau Co), 22 Feb (JH).

Northern Harrier
MC : 12, Johnson Co, 12 Feb (KM); 11, Jackson Co, 28 Feb (RM); 4, Lee Co, 23 Dec (EW, DJS, KW). **Others**: 3, Springbrook Prairie FP (Du Page Co), 2 Dec (UG); Chau, 7 Dec (R&SBj); Streator (La Salle Co), 10 Dec (DJS); near Albany (Whiteside Co), 19 Dec (RN); HL, 23 Dec< (FH); 2, Fermi, 20 Jan (AA); IBSP, 10 Feb (SH); ad. male, Scott Co, 13 Feb (LH); 8,Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK).

Sharp-shinned Hawk
imm., HL, all winter (JZ); Serena (La Salle Co), 10 Dec (DJS); 2, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC, GL); Shabbona L State Recreation Area (De Kalb Co), 16 Dec (DJS); Barrington Hills (Cook Co), 18 Dec (AA); near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF); 2, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); imm., Kankakee Co, 28 Dec (DFS); Lee Co, 30 Dec (KJM); Chau, 11 Jan (R&SBj); 2, Vermilion Co, 12 Jan (JOS); MArb, 14 & 16 Jan (UG, MBC); ad., SRock SP, 15 Jan (DFS); Carl.L, 20 Jan (DK).

Cooper's Hawk
MC : 3, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB, m.ob.); 3, Urbana, 1 Jan (RC); 2, Alton (Madison Co), 14 Dec (KM). **Others**: imm. female, JP, all winter (PC); near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); 2, Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co), 23 Dec (EW, KW); Lenzburg (St. Clair Co), 4 Jan (TUM); Bushnell (McDonough Co), 6 Jan (LH); Bolingbrook (Will Co), 7 Jan (UG); 2, Chi, 13 Jan (AA); Carl.L, 13 Jan (DK); 2, Northbrook (Cook Co), 16 Jan (EW); HL, 21 Jan (FH); 2, De Kalb Co, 3 Feb (DJS); Little Swan L (Warren Co), 6 Feb (LH).

Northern Goshawk
Urbana, 16 Dec - 11 Feb (GL, *RC, m.ob.); ad., Merwyn Preserve (McLean Co), 13 Jan (RF); subad., HL, 28 Jan (FH, JZ); ad., Kieselburg FP (Winnebago Co), 11 Feb (DTW).

Red-shouldered Hawk
MC : 3, Winnebago Co, 23 Dec (DTW); 2, Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK). **Others**: near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); SRock SP, 30 Dec (C&JMc); SandRdg, 13 Jan - 28 Feb (R&SBj); Carl.L, 21 Jan (DK); Urbana, 22 Jan (RC); Cook Co, 23 Jan & 20 Feb (CSF); ad., Lake Co, 28 Jan (RE); Belvidere (Boone Co), 28Jan (DTW); Lee Co, 10 Feb (DJS); Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 19 Feb (KJM).

Bald Eagle. 8 January 2001. Peoria, Illinois. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Red-tailed Hawk
MC : 68, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (EA, PS, KJM); 50, near Andalusia (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 25, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK); 21, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, BB, m.ob.); 21, Will & Grundy Cos, 17 Feb (DJS). **Others**: 31, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 15, Cook Co, 18 Dec (AA); 13, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT);

37, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (AT, ET, m.ob.); 21, Bureau Co, 1 Jan (DJS); 9, Chau, 25 Jan (R&SBj); 8, De Kalb Co, 3 Feb (DJS). "**Harlan's Hawk**": Madison Co, all winter (present for fourth year) (TB); SandRdg, 9 Dec (KM); Logan (Franklin Co), 2 Jan (LS). "**Krider's Hawk**": Armstrong (Vermilion Co), 7 Feb (RC). "**western" form**: Levee Rd. (Monroe Co), 23 Jan (JZ).

Rough-legged Hawk
MC : 10, Ogle Co, 16 Dec (EW, DJS, KW); 8 (6 light morph, 2 dark morph), Kankakee Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 8, Winnebago Co, 1 Jan (DTW); 4, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, BB, m.ob.); 2, Carl.L, 6 Jan (DK). **Others**: 4, near Thomson (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 3, near Illinois City (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); Vermilion Co, 26 Dec (JOS); light morph, Cumberland Co, 30 Dec (DFS); 3 (1 dark morph, 2 light morph), Bureau Co, 1 Jan (DJS); light morph, Urbana, all Jan (EC, RC); HL, 1 Jan (FH); Fermi, 1 Jan (UG); 3 (1 dark morph, 2 light morph), De Kalb Co, 3 Jan (DJS); 2, Fiatt (Fulton Co), 11 Jan (LH); dark morph, SandRdg, 15 Jan (KM); 5, La Salle Co, 4 Feb (C&JMc); 4, Warren Co, 6 Feb (LH); Johnson Co, 12 Feb (KM).

Golden Eagle
imm., UCCA, 2 Dec & 12 Feb (DK, KM, FB); ad., Trail of Tears SF (Union Co), 29 Dec (DK, KM).

American Kestrel
MC : 13, La Salle Co, 10 Dec (DJS); 13, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (JB, SB, m.ob.); 12, Union Co, 2 Dec (KM, FB, DK); 8, Carl.L, 20 Jan (DK); 3, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF, KJM); 3, Chau, 15 Feb (R&SBj). **Others**: Hyde P, Chi, all winter (PC); Vermilion Co (raiding feeders), all winter (JOS); 4, near Thomson (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 9, near Illinois City (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); Montrose, 18 Jan (AA); 2, Pekin, 17 Feb (AA); HL, 28 Feb (FH).

Merlin
IBSP, 10 Dec (AS); female/imm.., Urbana, 16 Dec & 26 Jan (*RC); female, Batavia (Kane Co), 16 Dec (MBC); Chi, 17 Dec (AS); male, Kankakee Co, 28 Dec (DFS); Hidden L FP (Du Page Co), 31 Dec - 1 Jan (UG); Calumet P, LCal, 9 Jan (DFS).

Peregrine Falcon
pr., Evanston (Cook Co), all winter (EW); pr., Hyde P, Chi, all winter (PC); Alton (Madison Co), 3 Dec & 15 Jan (FH, DK); LCal, 6 Jan (WM, RH); 2, Elmhurst (Du Page Co), 15 Jan (DFS); ad., Montrose, 18 Jan (AA).

Gray Partridge
7, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (SF, TM); 9, Durand (Winnebago Co), 23-30 Dec (*DTW). See article in this issue.

Ring-necked Pheasant
MC : 43, Kankakee Co, 28 Dec (DFS); 13, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (JS, DF, m.ob.). **Others**: male, Schaumburg (Cook Co), 9 Dec (AA); 3, near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, BB); 2, Will Co, 30 Dec (UG); male, Utica (La Salle Co), 30 Dec (UG).

Wild Turkey
MC : 91, near Savanna (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (EA, PS); 79, La Salle Co, 17 Dec (C&JMc); 40, Chandlervillc (Cass Co), 13 Jan (RC, m.ob.); 35, Mermet L, 12 Feb (KM); 20, Woodford Co, 30 Jan (MF); 15, Herrick L FP (Du Page Co), 31 Dec - 1 Jan (UG). **Others**: 28, near Cordova (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (KJM, RN); 10, Lowden-Miller SF (Ogle Co), 23 Dec (EW, KW); 11, Wilmington (Will Co), 1 Jan (CA); 15, Elkhorn Creek (Washington Co), 2 Jan (DK); 12, Belvidere (Boone Co), 10 Jan (DTW); 22, East Alton (Madison Co), 14 Jan (KM); 14, Illini SP (La Salle Co), 4 Feb (C&JMc); 4, Vermilion Co, 23 Feb (JOS); 30, Hancock Co, 24 Feb (KM, m.ob.). Widely reported in good numbers.

Bonaparte's Gull. 2 December 2000. Lake Springfield. Sangamon Co. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Northern Bobwhite
MC : 22, McDonough Co, 16 Dec (LH); 19, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 11, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM). **Others**: 15, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK); 4, Thomson-Fulton Sand Prairie (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 3, near Illinois City (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); 15, Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK).

Virginia Rail
County Line Marsh (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (*KJM).

American Coot
MC : 725, HL, 26 Feb (KM); 129, Chi, 9 Dec (WM); 55, La Salle L, 4 Feb (C&JMc); 25, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK); 10, L Spfld, 9 Dec (LH); 8, L Spfld, 21 Jan (KM). **Others**: 55, JP, 3 Dec (PC); 16, Bald.L, 2 Jan (DK); 2, Lockport (Will Co), 7 Jan (UG); Chi, 13 Jan (AA); 4, JP, 19 Feb> (BH, PC); 2, Bloom., 20 Feb (MLR, JSt); Arcola (Douglas Co), 25 Feb> (RC).

Sandhill Crane
33, Rockford (Winnebago Co), 5 Dec (DTW); 2, Distillery Rd. (Boone Co), **28 Jan** (MR); Urbana, 23 Feb> (RC).

Killdeer
MC : 30, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK); 5, Chau, 7 Dec< (R&SBj); 4, Winnebago Co, 1-8 Dec (DTW); 4, Joliet (Will Co), 7 Jan (UG). **Others**: 2, Heyworth (McLean Co), 10 Dec (MLR); Mermet L, 30 Dec< (KM, DK); 2, Bureau Co, 1 Jan (DJS); 2, Hecker (Monroe Co), 8 Feb (TUM); Urbana, 11 Feb> (RC); 3, Vermilion Co, 28 Feb (JOS).

LEAST SANDPIPER
Carl.L, **13 Dec** (DK); 3, Miss.R (Alexander Co), **28 Dec** (*DK, KM, CT).

Dunlin
GrtLakes, 1 Dec< (JE).

Common Snipe
MC : 21, Chau, 7 Dec< (R&SBj); 11, Carl.L, 3 Dec (DK); 3, L&D #13 (Whiteside Co), 14 Dec< (KJM); 3, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (KJM). **Others**: Naperville (Will Co), 17 Dec (PWS, DL); 2, near Millersburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); Miss.R (Alexander Co), 28 Dec (*DK, KM, CT); Bureau Co, 1 Jan (DJS); Romeoville (Will Co), 7 Jan (UG).

American Woodcock
MC : 11, Madison Co, 26 Feb (KM); 8, Carl.L, 11 Feb (DK). **Others**: 2, Massac Co, 8 Feb (FB); 4, near Carbondale (Jackson Co), 10 Feb (RM, VL); Urbana, 11 Feb> (RC); 7, CrabOr, 12 Feb (KM).

LAUGHING GULL
ad., Miss.R (**Madison Co**), 13, 15 & 25 Jan (WR, *CW, DK, HDB, KM); ad. (same bird as preceding?), **Carl.L**,18 Feb (*DK). The four previous winter season records for Illinois span 13 Dec - 2 Jan and likely represent tardy fall migrants. This season's records thus appear to provide the first true overwintering data for this species.

FRANKLIN'S GULL
Rend L, **12 Feb**> (KM).

Bonaparte's Gull
MC : **3000**, CrabOr, 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB) — second highest winter season count. **Others**: 400, Carl.L, 3 Dec (DK); 8, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 400, CrabOr, 11 Feb (DK).

Ring-billed Gull
MC : **50,000**, Carl.L, 11 Feb (DK) — record winter high count; 2500, HL, 28 Jan (JZ, FH); 698, Montrose, 2 Dec (GW); 500, LCal, 28 Feb (GW); 370, Clear L (Mason Co), 15 Feb (R&SBj). **Others**: 400, JP, all winter (PC); 200, SRock SP, 10 Dec (DJS); 47, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (TM, SF, KJM); 284, Wilmette (Cook Co), 30 Dec (EW, DS); 1200, Carl.L, 20 Jan (DK); Homer L (Champaign Co), 17 Feb> (RC, SDB); 50, Evergrn L, 20 Feb (MLR, JSt); 2, Vermilion Co, 28 Feb (JOS).

Herring Gull
MC : **14,500**, SRock SP, 12 Jan (JH); **10,000**, SRock SP, 22 Dec (C&JMc); 2600, LCal, 9 Jan (DFS); 1000, Carl.L, 18 Feb (DK); 26, Chau, 23 Feb (R&SBj). **Others**: 15, JP, all winter (PC); 1450, LCal, 9 Dec (WM); L Spfld, 9 Dec (LH); 152, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (KJM, SF, TM); 3600, Illinois R (La Salle Co), 15 Jan

(DFS); 80, Carl.L, 20 Jan (DK); 6, Evergrn L, 20 Feb (MLR, JSt).

Thayer's Gull
MC : **10** (ad.), Peoria L (Tazewell Co), 10 Feb (MLR, JSt); 8 (3 ad., 4 1st, 1 2nd), SRock SP, 31 Dec & 13 Jan (RC, UG). **Others**: 3, North Point Marina (Lake Co), 9 Dec (SH); 1st, Carl.L, 14 & 19 Dec (DK, KM); ad., Chi, 25 Dec (GW); Waukegan (Lake Co), 1 Jan (GW); ad., LCal, 9 Jan (DFS); 2, Butterworth P (Rock Island Co), 15 Jan (KJM); ad., Alton (Madison Co), 19 Jan (GW); ad., Will Co, 27 Jan (DFS); 2nd, Carl.L, 3 Feb (DK); ad., Montrose, 21 Feb (DFS).

Iceland Gull
2, SRock SP, 30 Dec & 6 Jan (UG, AS); ad., East Alton (Madison Co), 20 Jan (KM); 2 (ad. "Kumlien's"), Pekin, 27 Jan (MLR); ad., Dresden Dam (Grundy Co), 17 Feb (DJS).

Lesser Black-backed Gull
MC : **5** (4 ad., 1 1st), SRock SP, 3 Jan (DJS) — record winter high count; 3, Pekin, 27 Jan (MLR); 2 (1 ad. *graellsii*, 1 ad. ***intermedius***), HL, 1 & 5 Feb (*JZ) — **first Illinois record of subspecies *intermedius***, pending IORC review. **Others**: ad., Montrose, 1-2 Dec (GW); ad., IBSP, 2 & 9 Dec (AS); ad., Mermet L, 30 Dec (*DK, KM); ad., Wilmette (Cook Co), 30 Dec (EW, DS); 2 (1 ad., 1 3rd), LCal, 6 & 9 Jan (RH, DFS); 2 (1 ad., 1 3rd), SRock SP, 15 Jan (DFS); ad., Carl.L, 21 Jan (*DK); ad., Fermi, 11 Feb (AS); 1st, Carl.L, 25 Feb (*DK).

Glaucous Gull
MC : 3, Pekin, 27 Jan (MLR); 2 (ad., 1st), SRock SP, 31 Dec, 12-13 & 27 Jan (RC, KM, UG, DJS); 2 (ad., 1st), Chi, 7 Jan (DFS). **Others**: 2 (ad.), North Point Marina (Lake Co), 9 Dec (SH, AS); ad., Carl.L, 6 Jan (DK); ad., LCal, 6 Jan (WM, RH); 1st, Waukegan (Lake Co), 13 Feb (CSF); imm., LCal, 28 Feb (GW).

Great Black-backed Gull
1st, Rend L, all winter (KM); 1st, SRock SP, 31 Dec (RC); 2nd, SRock SP, 7 Jan (DJS); 2 (ad., 2nd), Calumet P, LCal, 9 Jan (DFS); ad., SRock SP, 12-13 Jan (KM, UG); 1st, HL, 1 Feb (JZ); 2nd, LCal, 17 Feb (WM).

Rock Dove
MC : 600, Urbana, 1 Jan (RC); 530, Riverdale (Cook Co), 30 Dec (WM); 512, Lee Co, 23 Dec (EW, DJS, KW); 150, Carl.L, 25 Feb (DK). **Others**: 159, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB, m.ob.); 48, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 277, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (JS, DF, m.ob.); 495, Cook Co, 13 Jan (DFS).

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE
Two documentations thus far accepted: Newton (Jasper Co), 19 Dec (*JW); Metropolis (Massac Co), 30 Dec (*DK). **Others** (from sites with established populations and previously accepted documentations): Urbana, 9 Dec & 11 Feb (RC); 2, Metropolis (Massac Co), 7 Jan (DK, KM, FB). See also Records pending IORC review.

Mourning Dove
MC : 200, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 162, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (CK, CJ, TG); 137, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 102, Kendall Co, 3 Dec (DFS). **Others**: 75, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK); 25, Vermilion Co, 13 Dec (JOS); 40, near Savanna (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (DW, LT); 89, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 144, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 87, Hyde P, Chi, 17 Jan (PC).

Monk Parakeet
MC : 61, Burnham, LCal, 11 Feb (WM). **Others**: 4, Addison (Du Page Co), 31 Dec (MBC); 26, JP, 25 Jan & 4 Feb (PC, KC); 13, Wolf L, LCal, 11 Feb (WM).

Barn Owl
Union Co, 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB).

Eastern Screech-Owl
MC : 15, Union Co, 29 Dec (DFS); 11, Skokie Lagoons FP (Cook Co), 29 Dec (EW); 8, near Fulton (Whiteside Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 4, near Joy (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF). **Others**: Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS); 3, Lowden SP (Ogle Co), 23 Dec (EW, DJS); 3, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM); Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK); 8, Wayne Fitzgerrell SP (Franklin Co), 8 Jan (LS); 2, Kankakee Co, 13 Jan (DFS); HL, 28 Jan (FH).

Great Horned Owl
MC : 13, near Fulton (Whiteside Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 9, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK); 3, Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS). **Others**: 3, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (BB, m.ob.); 5, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); on nest, Chevalier Woods FP (Cook Co), 19 Feb (AA); Evergrn L, 25 Feb (MLR).

Snowy Owl
Montrose, 1 Dec & 18 Jan (GW, AA); Meigs Field, Chi, 1, 7 & 25 Dec (GW); near Streator (La Salle Co), 9 Dec (C&JMc); **Rend L**, 16 Dec (RM); imm., Shorewood (Will Co), 21 Feb (CA).

Eastern Screech-Owl. 18 Dec. 2000. Springfield, IL. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Barred Owl
MC : 7, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM, JS, DF); 5, near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, BB); 2, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK). **Others**: 4, Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS); 3, near Savanna (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (DW, LT); 2, Lowden SP (Ogle Co), 23 Dec (EW, MS, DJS).

Long-eared Owl
MC : 5, Homer L (Champaign Co), 21 Jan (RC, m.ob.); 2, Carl.L, 21 Jan - 18 Feb (*DK). **Others**: Rend L, 23 Dec (KM, VL); Lowden SP (Ogle Co), 23 Dec (EW, MS, DJS); Fermi, 23 Dec (AS); Green R CA (Lee Co), 30 Dec (KJM); Wayne Fitzgerrell SP (Franklin Co), 8 Jan (LS); Iroquois Co, 13 Jan (DFS); Robert Allerton P (Piatt Co), 15 Jan (RC); Bloom., 15 Jan (MF, found injured and died on 19 Jan; current status of specimen not reported); Green Valley FP (Du Page Co), 11 Feb (UG); female, JP, 25 Feb> (BH, PC).

Short-eared Owl
MC : 3, Springbrook Prairie (Du Page Co), 2 Dec (UG); 3, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK); 3, Massac Co, 10 Feb (FB). **Others**: Fairhaven Rd. (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); Green Valley FP (Du Page Co), 17 Dec (*WM, DL); Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co), 23 Dec (EW, DJS); Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (JS, DF); Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK); Strawn (Livingston Co), 31 Dec (RC); Kendall Co, 7 Jan (CA); Bloom., 27 Jan (RC); 3, Jackson Co, 28 Feb (RM).

Northern Saw-whet Owl
MC : 2, MArb, 18 Feb (AS). **Others**: Deer Grove East FP (Cook Co), 1-14 Dec (CSF); MArb, 1 Dec - 10 Feb (JC, UG); Robert Allerton P (Piatt Co), 2 Dec - 15 Jan, (RC); near Thomson (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); Carl.L, 20 Jan - 24 Feb (*DK); Middle Fork Fish & Wildlife Area (Vermilion Co), 7 Feb (RC); Rend L, 20 Feb (*LS); Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co), 28 Feb (CSF — over 50 pellets at perch).

Belted Kingfisher. 1 Dec. 2000. Washington Park, Springfield, IL. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Belted Kingfisher
MC : 3, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 2, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, TM, SF); 2, Bureau Co, 1 Jan (DJS). **Others**: 2, L Spfld, 9 Dec (LH); De Kalb Co, 16 Dec (DJS); Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB); 2, Ogle Co, 23 Dec (MS); Bald.L, 2 Jan (DK); SRock SP, 3 Jan (DJS); Chi, 13 Jan (AA); male, Channahon (Will Co), 27 Jan (DFS); HL, 1 Feb> (FH).

Red-headed Woodpecker
MC : 12, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM); 8, Kankakee Co, 16 Feb (DFS); 5, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM, RZ). **Others**: 3, Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS); 3, Depue (Bureau Co), 9 Dec (DFS); 5, near Cordova

(Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (KJM, RN); 3, Carl.L, 19 Dec (DK); 5, near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, BB); SandRdg, 15 Jan (KM); 3, Gulfport (Henderson Co), 17 Jan (KJM); imm., Ottawa (La Salle Co), 3-4 Feb (C&JMc).

Red-bellied Woodpecker
MC : 46, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, JS, DF); 39, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 22, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT). **Others**: 2, Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS); 31, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 25, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 17, Ogle Co, 23 Dec (EW, KW, DJS); 6, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK); HL, 25 Feb (FH).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
MC : 8, Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK); 8, Urbana, 1 Jan (RC); 2, Winnebago Co, 23 Dec (DTW). **Others**: Bloom., 12 Dec (DBi); Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (TM, SF); 2, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK); male, MArb, 1 Jan & 4 Feb (MBC, DFS).

Downy Woodpecker
MC : 70, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB, m.ob.); 34, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 34, Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK). **Others**: 4, JP, all winter (PC, BH); 3, Vermilion Co, 1 Dec (JOS); 34, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 4, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK); 31, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 26, Ogle Co, 23 Dec (EW, KW, DJS).

Hairy Woodpecker
MC : 13, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 9, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF, KJM); 7, Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK). **Others**: 12, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 6, near Thomson (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 2, Carl.L, 3 Feb (DK); Chi, 22 Feb (AA).

RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER
IBSP, 10 Dec (present since 19 Aug) (AS — see *Meadowlark* 10:42-45 for details and photographs regarding this federally endangered species, which is now on the state checklist).

Northern Flicker
MC : 21, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 9, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 7, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, TM, SF). **Others**: 6, Carl.L, 14 Dec (DK); 4, near Thomson (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 4, Ogle Co, 23 Dec (EW, KW, DJS); 6, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM); Downers Grove (Du Page Co), 13 Jan (UG); 8, Calhoun Co, 20 Jan (DFS); 3, La Salle L, 4 Feb (C&JMc); 3, Kendall Co, 11 Feb (DFS); HL, 18 Feb (FH); Vermilion Co, 20-27 Feb (JOS).

Pileated Woodpecker
MC : 7, Union Co, 29 Dec (DK, KM); 5, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM); 2, Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS). **Others**: Thomson Causeway (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); Mark Twain NWR, Keithsburg Division (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); 2, Winnebago Co, 23 Dec (DTW); Carbondale (Jackson Co), 24 Dec (RM); Carl.L, 2 Jan (DK); 2, Chau, 18 Jan (R&SBj).

Eastern Phoebe
Klehm Arb, 3 Dec (DTW); Carl.L, 10-19 Dec (DK); Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK).

Loggerhead Shrike
MC : 3, Carl.L, 14 Dec (DK). **Others**: HLCA, 28 Dec (KM); Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM); Levee Rd. (Monroe Co), 23 Jan (JZ).

Northern Shrike
Paul Douglas FP (Cook Co), all winter (CSF); Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (JS, DF); Highland P (Cook Co), 1 Jan (EW); Heidecke L (Grundy Co), 2 & 13 Jan (DJS, KM); IBSP, 7 & 20 Jan (AS, SH); 1 (cating cached food), Virgil (Kane Co), 20 Jan (AA); Matthiessen SP (La Salle Co), 20 & 27 Jan (DJS, C&JMc); Lyons Woods (Lake Co), 20 Jan (AS); Rock Cut SP (Winnebago Co), 24 Jan (DTW); Distillery CA (Boone Co), 26 Jan (DTW); Green Valley FP (Du Page Co), 11 Feb (UG); Evergreen L (Woodford Co), 23-24 Feb (MLR, WH, RC).

Blue Jay
MC : 174, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 124, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co),20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 59, Carl.L, 19 Dec (DK, KM). **Others**: 10, Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS); 58, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 129, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); 91, Ogle Co, 23 Dec (EW, KW, DJS); 99, Kankakee Co, 16 Feb (DFS).

American Crow
MC : 4470, Evanston (Cook Co), 29 Dec (EW — highest number recorded at this roost); 2500, HL, 6 Feb (KM); 1323, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (JS, DF, m.ob.); 147, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). **Others**: 759, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB, m.ob.); 830, Ogle Co, 1 Jan (DFS); 300, Carl.L, 20 Jan (DK).

Horned Lark
MC : **2072**, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM, RZ); 937, McDonough Co, 16 Dec (LH); 899, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 760, Union Co, 29 Dec (DFS); 505, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 323, De Kalb Co, 3 Feb (DJS). **Others**: 400, Carl.L, 14 Dec (DK); 128, La Salle & Grundy Cos, 17 Dec (DJS); 352, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, JS, DF); 230, Kankakee Co, 28 Dec (DFS); 444, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (JS, DF, m.ob.); 9, Fermi, 1 & 6 Jan (UG); 300, Urbana, 6 Jan (RC); 6, Virgil (Kane Co), 20 Jan (AA); 16, JP, 8 Feb> (PC, BH).

Tree Swallow
Massac Co, 27 Feb (FB).

Carolina Chickadee
MC : 38, Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK). **Others**: 4, Homer L (Champaign Co), 3 Dec (JOS); 12, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK).

Black-capped Chickadee
MC : 196, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 101, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.). **Others**: 109, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 182, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 122, Ogle Co, 1 Jan (DFS); 8, SandRdg, 15 Jan (KM); 10, JP, 4 Feb (PC, BH).

Tufted Titmouse
MC : 29, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 26, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB, m.ob.); 26, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT). **Others**: 2, Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS); 23, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 6, Carl.L, 14 Dec (DK); 15, Cordova to Albany (Rock Island, Whiteside Cos), 19 Dec (KJM, RN); 24, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); SRock SP, 30 Dec (UG); 8, Ogle Co, 1 Jan (DFS); 3, Joliet (Will Co), 7 Jan (UG); 2, IBSP, 27 Jan (SH); HL, 2 Feb (FH); 9, Kankakee Co, 16 Feb (DFS).

Red-breasted Nuthatch
MC : 11, Lowden-Miller SF (Ogle Co), 9 Dec (EW); 6, IBSP, 1 Jan (GW); 6, SandRdg, 15 Jan (KM). **Others**: male, Woodridge (Du Page Co), all winter (MBC); 4, Argyle L SP (McDonough Co), 10 Dec (LH); Rend L, 23 Dec (DK); Wilmington (Will Co), 1 Jan (CA); 2, Robert Allerton P (Piatt Co), 15 Jan (RC); 5, MArb, 16 Jan (MBC).

White-breasted Nuthatch
MC : 72, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 55, near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 18, Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK). **Others**: Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS); 48, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 67, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 45, Ogle Co, 1 Jan (DFS); 3, Carl.L, 3 Feb (DK).

Brown Creeper
MC : 6, Ogle Co, 23 Dec (EW, KW, DJS); 5, Kendall Co, 11 Feb (DFS); 2, SandRdg, 14 Jan (KM). **Others**: Bloom., 12 Dec (DBi); 4, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); Mark Twain NWR, Keithsburg Division (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); 4, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (KJM, AT, ET); Blackhawk FP (Kane Co), 20 Jan (UG); 3, Kieselburg FP (Winnebago Co), 11 Feb (DTW); 2, Chevalier Woods FP (Cook Co), 19 Feb (AA); Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK).

Carolina Wren
MC : 11, Carl.L, 19 Dec (KM); 9, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 8, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 5, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS). **Others**: Grt-Lakes, 9 Dec & 7 Jan (SH, AS); Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (KJM); near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); 7, Mermet L, 30

Dec (KM, DK); Wilmington (Will Co), 1 Jan (CA); L Spfld, 21 Jan (KM); SRock SP, 28 Jan (C&JMc); Vermilion Co, 28 Jan (JOS).

Winter Wren
MC : 4, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK). **Others**: Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); near Cordova (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (KJM); Carl.L, 19 Dec (DK).

Golden-crowned Kinglet
MC : 8, UCCA, 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB); 2, near Cordova (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (KJM). **Others**: JP, 3 Dec< (PC); 2, Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co), 9 Dec (EW); 7, Carl.L, 19 Dec (KM).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
4, Union Co, 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB); Rend L, 23 Dec (DK).

Eastern Bluebird
MC : 25, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 15, Jersey Co, 14 Feb (KM); 10, McDonough Co, 16 Dec (LH); 9, near Fulton (Whiteside Co), 14 Dec (KJM). **Others**: 7, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 7, near Shirland (Winnebago Co), 23 Dec (DTW); 8, Bureau Co, 1 Jan (DJS); Highland P (Cook Co), 3 Jan (EW); 2, Lyons Woods (Lake Co), 7 Jan (AS); 13, Carl.L, 11 Jan (DK); 8, Illinois City (Rock Island Co), 12 Jan (KJM); 7, Woodford Co, 20 Jan (MF); 7, HL, 1 Feb> (FH).

Hermit Thrush
MC : 12, Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK); 7, Klehm Arb, 12 Dec (DTW); 2, SandRdg, 14 Jan (KM). **Others**: 2, Cook Co, 2 Dec (GW); Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 2, near Fulton (Whiteside Co), 14 Dec (KJM); Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); HL, 23 Dec< (FH); Libertyville (Lake Co), 1 Jan (AS); Urbana, 6 Jan (RC); Carl.L, 20 Jan (DK); Silver Springs SP (Kendall Co), 11 Feb (DFS).

Hermit Thrush. 17 Dec. 2000. Springfield, Illinois. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

American Robin
MC : 303, Union Co, 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB); 140, Carl.L, 3 Feb (DK); 70, Highland P (Cook Co), 1 Jan (EW); 60, SandRdg, 14 Jan (KM); 50, Vermilion Co, 28 Feb (JOS); 31, near Fulton (Whiteside Co), 14 Dec (KJM). **Others**: 35, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 36, Cook Co, 18 Dec (AA); 25, near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); 14, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 1 Feb (LH); 56, Oswego (Kendall Co), 4 Feb (DJS).

VARIED THRUSH
ad. male, Naperville (Du Page Co), 13 Dec - 9 Jan (*JR, SL;photo, m.ob.). Congerville (Woodford Co), 3 Jan - 3 Feb.

Varied Thrush. 28 Jan. 2001. Woodford County. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Northern Mockingbird
MC : 10, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT). **Others**: Urbana, 16 Dec (GL, RC); 2, Carl.L, 19 Dec (DK); near Cordova (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (KJM); IBSP, 3 Jan (DD); HL, 28 Feb> (FH).

Brown Thrasher
MC : 4, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT). **Others**: Urbana, 9 Dec (RC); Green Valley FP (Du Page Co), 17 Dec (*PWS); Lenzburg (St. Clair Co), 29 Dec - 1 Jan (TUM); Carl.L, 2 Jan (DK); Bald.L, 2 Jan (DK); Fermi, 15 Jan (MBC).

European Starling
MC : 10,000, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 5700, LCal, 30 Dec (WM, KW); 4000, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK); 1547, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB, m.ob.). **Others**: 1150, Riverwoods (Lake Co), 5 Dec (EW); 556, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 344, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF); 60, JP, 13 Feb (PC, BH).

AMERICAN PIPIT
5, Clinton Co, **22 Feb**> (KM); Vermilion Co, **28 Feb** (JOS).

Cedar Waxwing
MC : 250, Klehm Arb, all winter (DTW); 120, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK); 90, Argyle L SP (McDonough Co), 10 Dec (LH); 64, Cook Co, 18 Dec (AA). **Others**: 100, Union Co, 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB); 42, Marietta (Fulton Co), 16 Dec (LH); 15, Lisle (Du Page Co), 17 Dec (WM); 58, near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); 80, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM); 9, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (AT, ET); 16, Highland P (Cook Co), 1 Jan (EW); 12, L Spfld, 12 Jan (KM); JP, 7 Feb> (PC); 47, Kendall Co, 11 Feb (DFS).

CAPE MAY WARBLER
Harvard (McHenry Co), 1-8 Dec< (DFi — found dead on 8 Dec; current status of specimen not reported).

Yellow-rumped Warbler
MC : 16, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 14, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK); 4, Chi, 13 Jan (AA); 2, near Fulton (Whiteside Co), 14 Dec (KJM). **Others**: Wheaton (Du Page Co), 16 Dec (EW); Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); Libertyville (Lake Co), 1 Jan (SH); Urbana, 1 Jan (RC); MArb, 6 Jan (UG); 3, Carl.L, 21 Jan (DK); HL, 11 Feb (FH).

PINE WARBLER
Rend L, **23 Dec** (DK).

Eastern Towhee
MC : 5, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK). **Others**: Rockford (Winnebago Co), 12-15 Dec (DTW); female, Seneca (La Salle Co), 17 Dec (DJS); 3, Carl.L, 19 Dec (DK); male, Kankakee Co, 26 Dec (DFS); White Heath (Piatt Co), 5 Jan (RC); female, Bloom., 22 Feb (MLR).

American Tree Sparrow
MC : 498, Lee Co, 23 Dec (EW, KW, MS); 491, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); 490, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 156, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK). **Others**: 463, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (DW, LT, m.ob.); 250, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 100, Hoffman Estates (Cook Co), 18 Dec (AA); 108, Carl.L, 19 Dec (KM); 200, Ogle Co, 1 Jan (DFS); 60, Goose L Prairie State Natural Area (Grundy Co), 12 Jan (KM); 56, La Salle L, 4 Feb (C&JMc); 175, Winnebago Co, 11 Feb (DTW).

American Tree Sparrow. 17 December 2000. Springfield, Illinois. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

CHIPPING SPARROW
imm., Urbana, **15-31 Dec** (*EC). Three additional undocumented reports: Rockford (Winnebago Co), 1-10 Dec; ad., Bloom., 17 Dec - 28 Feb; ad. (still in breeding plumage), Metropolis (Massac Co), 17 Dec. The reports were submitted by experienced observers, but this species remains very unusual in winter in Illinois, and known or apparent misidentifications are so many, that documentation is recommendedt endocumentation is strongly recommended.

Field Sparrow
MC : 20, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK); 15, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK). **Others**: Bloom., 17 Dec (DBi); near Cordova (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (*KJM); White Pines Forest SP (Ogle Co), 1 Jan (DFS); Urbana, 6 Jan (RC); HL, 18 Feb (FH).

Vesper Sparrow
Winnebago (Winnebago Co), 6 Jan (DTW).

Savannah Sparrow
MC : 30, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK); 2, La Salle L, 4 Feb (C&JMc). **Others**: GrtLakes, 9 Dec (SH); near Thomson (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (*KJM); Winnebago Co, 16 Dec (DTW); Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 7, Carl.L, 19 Dec (DK);Okeson Rd. (McHenry Co), 9

Jan (CSF); Perdueville (Ford Co), 7 Feb (RC); JP, 9 Feb> (PC).

Le Conte's Sparrow
MC : 14, Grassy Slough (Johnson Co), 8 Dec (FB); 7, Carl.L, 19 Dec (DK, WR). **Others**: HL, 3-10 Dec (*FH); Nachusa Grasslands (Lee Co), 9 Dec< (EW); 2, Jackson Co, 16 Dec (LS); 3, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK); 2, Grassy Slough (Johnson Co), 17 Feb (FB).

Fox Sparrow
MC : 5, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM, RZ); 5, Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK); 3, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS). **Others**: 2, Rockford (Winnebago Co), all winter (DTW); Woodford Co, 1 Dec< (MF); Vermilion Co, 2 Dec (JOS); near Fulton (Whiteside Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 2, Seneca (La Salle Co), 17 Dec (DJS); Bloom., 17 Dec (DBi); 2, Carl.L, 19 Dec (DK); Joliet (Will Co), 30-31 Dec (CA); Putnam Co, 1 Jan (C& JMc); IBSP, 7 Jan(AS); Cook Co, 23 Jan (CSF); HL, 25 Feb (FH).

Song Sparrow
MC : **370**, Union Co, 30 Dec (DFS) — highest single-observer winter count for state; 104, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 96, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, TM, SF). **Others**: 28, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 26, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (EA, PS, m.ob.); 75, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 6, Barrington Hills (Cook Co), 18 Dec (AA); 102, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM, RZ); 16, Ogle Co, 23 Dec (EW, KW, DJS); 96, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 95, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK); JP, 9 Feb> (PC).

Lincoln's Sparrow
Argo Fay Rd. (Carroll Co), 14 Dec< (*KJM); 2, Metropolis (Massac Co), 30 Dec (*DK).

Swamp Sparrow
MC : 103, Union Co, 30 Dec (DFS); 72, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK); 19, County Line Marsh (Rock Island Co), 19 Dec (RN, KJM). **Others**: 22, Carl.L, 10 Dec (DK); 3, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB, KJM); Hoffman Estates (Cook Co), 18 Dec (AA); Mark Twain NWR, Keithsburg Division (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); Downers Grove (Du Page Co), 24 Feb (UG).

White-throated Sparrow
MC : 158, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 50, Carl.L, 14 Dec (DK); 32, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM); 17, Wilmington (Will Co), 31 Dec (CA); 15, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC). **Others**: 12, Klehm Arb, all winter (DTW); 25, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 3, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 16 Dec (LH — one found dead 28 Dec; current status of specimen not reported); 16, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB); 15, Rock R valley (Ogle Co), 23 Dec (EW, KW, DJS); 10, Downers Grove (Du Page Co), 13 Jan (UG); 14, Chi, 17 Jan (DFS); 3, Kane Co, 20 Jan (UG); 2, Somonauk (De Kalb Co), 3 Feb (UG); 13, Peoria (Peoria Co), 17 Feb (AA).

Harris's Sparrow
2, Bloom., 1 Dec - 2 Jan (HH, MLR, DBi); Shattuc (Clinton Co), 19 Dec - 1 Jan (*DK); HL, 23 Dec (FH); imm., Kankakee Co, 26 Dec (DFS); imm., Sangchris L SP (Christian/Sangamon Cos), 12 Jan (KM); ad., Carl.L, 22 Jan & 24 Feb (KM, DK). Near-record numbers this season.

White-crowned Sparrow
MC : **115**, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK); 40, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK); 25, McDonough Co, 16 Dec (LH); 25, Wilmington (Will Co), 31 Dec (CA); 9, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 8, near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, TM, SF). **Others**: near Argo Fay (Carroll Co), 14 Dec (KJM); 7, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 5, Seneca (La Salle Co), 17 Dec (DJS); 2, Kankakee Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 8, Green R CA (Lee Co), 30 Dec (KJM, JB, SB); 26, Carl.L, 6 Jan (KM); imm., Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe (Cook Co), 21 Jan (AS); 2, De Kalb Co, 3 Feb (UG).

Dark-eyed Junco
MC : **1432**, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 640, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 171, Carl.L, 19 Dec (KM). **Others**: 265, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 599, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 469, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB, m.ob.); 144, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM, RZ); 15, JP, 4 Feb (PC, BH); 15, Bushnell (McDonough Co), 7 Feb (LH). **"Oregon" Junco**: 2, Woodford Co, 7 Dec - 26 Feb (*MF); McLean Co, 17 Dec - 28 Feb (MLR); male, Urbana, 1 Jan (RC).

Lapland Longspur
MC : 500, Urbana, 6 Jan (RC); 500, Carl.L, 21 Jan (DK); 260, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); 207, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM); 145, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 102, De Kalb Co, 16 Dec (DJS). **Others**: 100, McLean Co, 1 Dec (MLR, TK); 2, Du Page Co, 2 Dec (UG); 109, McDonough Co, 16 Dec (LH); 58, Franklin Co, 16 Dec (LS); 128, Seneca (La Salle Co), 17 Dec (DJS); 39, Rock Island Co, 23 Dec (KJM, SHa); 170, Kankakee Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 61, Union Co, 30 Dec (DFS); 20, Durand (Winnebago Co), 14 Jan (DTW); 24, McHenryCo, 30 Jan (CSF).

Snow Bunting
MC : 200, Winnebago Co, 1 Jan (DTW); 112, De Kalb Co, 28 Dec (DJS); 60, Emden (Logan Co), 13 Jan (RC, m.ob.); 4, Highway 127 (Washington Co), 1 Jan (DK). **Others**: 52, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (EA, PS, m.ob.); 9, JP, 16 Dec< (GD); 4, Batavia (Kane Co), 16 Dec (MBC); 123, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 7, IBSP, 24 Dec (AS); 52, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (JS, DF); 21, Kankakee Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 47, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (JS, DF,KJM); 48, La Salle L, 20 Jan (C&JMc); 5, McDonough Co, 26 Jan (LH).

Northern Cardinal
MC : 226, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 174, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 123, Union Co, 29 Dec (DFS). **Others**: 115, Bureau Co, 9 Dec (DFS); 111, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 70, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 74, Carl.L, 19 Dec (KM); 86, Ogle Co, 23 Dec (EW, KW, DJS); 73, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT); 5, JP, 26 Feb (PC).

Red-winged Blackbird
MC : **125,150**, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM); 5000, Carl.L, 24 Feb (DK); 331, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (KJM); 50, Vermilion Co, 8 Jan (JOS). **Others**: 2, Urbana, 1 Jan (RC); 2, Hidden L FP (Du Page Co), 6 Jan (UG); 300, Carl.L, 21 Jan (DK); 2, JP, 8 Feb> (BH); 50, Bloom., 10 Feb (JSt).

Eastern Meadowlark
MC : 41, McDonough Co, 16 Dec (LH); 37, Mermet L, 30 Dec (KM, DK); 6, De Kalb Co, 16 Dec (DJS). **Others**: Springbrook Prairie FP (Du Page Co), 2 Dec (UG); 21, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 2, Seneca (La Salle Co), 17 Dec (DJS); 30, Carl.L, 21 Dec (DK); 2, St. Clair Co, 3 Jan (TUM).

Western Meadowlark
2, Winnebago Co, 16 Dec (DTW — 1 still present on 7 Jan).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD
male, Metropolis (Massac Co), **30 Dec** (*DK); 2 (ad.), Massac Co, **7-8 Jan** (FB); male, Bischoff Rd. (Madison Co), 22 Jan (*DB); 1st male, **Grundy Co**, **27 Jan** (*DFS). **Highest winter season total for Illinois.**

Rusty Blackbird. 24 December 2000. Lake Sangchris. Sangamon Co. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Rusty Blackbird
MC : 200, Sante Fe Bottoms (Clinton Co), 25 Feb (DK); 52, Union Co, 29 Dec (KM, DK); 50, Bloom., 10 Feb (JSt). **Others**: Seneca (La Salle Co), 17 Dec (DJS); 15, Urbana, 1 Jan (RC); 2, Wolf L, LCal, 9 Jan (DFS); 10, Carl.L, 21 Jan (DK); Grundy Co, 4 Feb (C&JMc); 12, Mermet L, 12 Feb (KM).

Brewer's Blackbird
2, Vermilion Co, 3 Dec (JOS); Champaign Co, 13 Dec (JOS); Seneca (La Salle Co), 17 Dec (*DJS); Urbana, 25 Feb> (RC); 2 (male), Fermi, 28 Feb (GW).

Common Grackle
MC: 142,457, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM); 300, Carl.L, 25 Feb (DK); 200, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC). **Others**: 3, McDonough Co, 16 Dec (LH); 4, Andalusia (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM); 60, Carl.L, 1 Jan (DK); 100, Bloom., 10 Feb (JSt); 58, Vermilion Co, 21 Feb (JOS).

Brown-headed Cowbird
MC : 2000, Covel Creek (La Salle Co), 14 Jan (C&JMc); 565, Rend L, 23 Dec (KM); 300, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC). **Others**: 10, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (KJM); 9, Ogle Co, 23 Dec (EW, KW, DJS); 2, Winnebago (Winnebago Co), 23 Dec (DTW); 13, Andalusia (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM); 50, Carl.L, 24 Jan (DK); 500, Carl.L, 18 Feb (DK); 15, Hampton (Rock Island Co), 21 Feb> (KJM).

Purple Finch
MC : 40, near Keithsburg (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM); 22 (8 male, 14 female), SandRdg, all winter, (R&SBj); 19, Loud Thunder FP (Rock Island Co), 26 Dec (KJM); 6 (imm./female), Wilmington (Will Co), 31 Dec (CA). **Others**: 8, near Albany (Whiteside Co), 19 Dec (RN, KJM); Carl.L, 19 Dec (KM); 13, Klehm Arb, 30 Dec-3 Feb (DTW); 9, Urbana, 6 Jan (RC); 2 (female), Cook Co, 20 Feb (CSF).

House Finch
MC : 125, Durand (Winnebago Co), 14 Jan (DTW); 101, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 53, Carl.L, 19 Dec (KM). **Others**: 38, Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS); 50, Pulaski Co, 2 Dec (KM, DK, FB); 19, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (EA, PS, m.ob.); 108, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB, m.ob.); 81, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (CK, CJ, TG).

Red Crossbill
MC : 30, Argyle L SP (McDonough Co), 8-9 Dec (LH). **Others**: 2, Urbana, 22 Dec (RC); pr., IBSP, 1 Jan (GW); 2, White Pines Forest SP (Ogle Co), 1 Jan (DFS); female, MArb, 6 Jan (EW, JIE); 3, SandRdg, 15 Jan (KM).

Pine Siskin
MC : 8, MArb, 10 Feb (UG); 7, Klehm Arb, 25 Jan - 28 Feb (DTW). **Others**: Lodge P County FP (Piatt Co), 5 Jan (RC); 4, MArb, 13 Jan (AS); 2, Will Co, 13 Jan (KM).

American Goldfinch
MC : 80, Rock Island Co, 17 Dec (CB, LB, m.ob.); 79, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 46, Grundy Co, 27 Jan (DFS); 37, HLCA, 28 Dec (KM, DK, CT). **Others**: 17, Vermilion Co, all winter (JOS); 35, Carl.L, 3 Dec (DK); 49, Fulton to Savanna (Whiteside, Carroll Cos), 14 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 72, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 40, Ogle Co, 1 Jan (DFS); 12, JP, 15 Jan (KC).

House Sparrow
MC : 1118, Rock Island Co, 26 Dec (KJM, m.ob.); 1055, near New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 425, Riverwoods (Lake Co), 5 Dec (EW); 400, Carl.L, 19 Dec (DK). **Others**: 500, Urbana, 16 Dec (RC); 515, Kankakee Co, 26 Dec (DFS); 419, Rock Falls, 30 Dec (JS, DF, m.ob.); 305, Evanston (Cook Co), 30 Dec (EW).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow
MC : 323, Keithsburg to New Boston (Mercer Co), 20 Dec (TM, SF, m.ob.); 33, near L&D #16 (Rock Island Co), 23 Dec (KJM, SHa). **Others**: 151, McDonough Co, 16 Dec (LH); 12, Table Grove (Fulton Co), 15 Jan (KM); 2, Waynesville (DeWitt Co), 17 Feb (CF).

EXOTIC/RELEASED SPECIES

Trumpeter Swan
5, Carl.L, 11-24 Feb (DK).

RECORDS PENDING IORC REVIEW

KING EIDER
female, L Spfld, 9 Dec & 20-21 Jan; Vermilion Co, 27 Dec.

WESTERN GULL
2nd, SRock SP, 7 Jan.

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE
MC : 4, Carl.L, 14 Dec. See main text for additional records, including accepted documentations.

ADS & RATES: The Illinois Ornithological Society accepts ads for publishing in Meadowlark. Rates/rules are as follows:

Required materials: Camera-ready copy and check payable to IOS should be sent to: Sheryl De Vore, 967 Braeburn Road, Mundelein, IL 60060.

Due dates: No. 1-Summer: February 1; No. 2-Fall: May 1; No. 3-Winter: August 1; No. 4-Spring: November 1.

Rates Per Issue: $15 1/8 page (one business size card); $30 1/4 page (equivalent of two business cards); $60 half page.

We reserve the right to accept or deny any ad, and to limit the space set aside for ads, which will usually be placed at the back of the journal.

The Illinois Ornithological Society gratefully acknowledges the following for their generous donations and support.

Patron ($2,000) Mary Ann Mahoney

Sponsor ($500+) Marsha Steffen

Supporters ($100+)

Dale Birkenholz • Denis M. Bohm • Robin N. Cronin • Rick & Tracy Fox • Parker Hall • Brian Herner • Dorothy Jackson
R. David Johnson • David B. Johnson • Marjoric Lundy & Family • Patricia Miller • Wilbur and Baiba Rosenkranz
Harriet W. Rylaarsdam • Roger & Dana Rzepka • Douglas Stotz & Francie Muraski-Stotz
Paul F. Sullivan & Marsha Dittmer • David Willard • Geoffrey & Christine Williamson

Contributors ($50+)

Jerry and Kelly Ardmino • Steven D. Bailey • Mr. and Mrs. Rex J. Bates • Christopher Boebel & Glenna Eaves • Ann Bothe
• Florence Burek • Scott Carpenter • Elizabeth J. Chato • Paul R. Clyne • Mrs. Tammy Devine • Philip D. Doncheck
• Barbara C. Elftman • Mrs. Erica Friederici • J. Patrick Graham • Alice Gregory • Kenton Griffis & Elizabeth Sims
• Mary Anne Harrison • W.A. Hartman • Roger E. Hotham • L. Barrie Hunt • North Central Illinois Ornithological Society
• Rhetta Jack • Anthony & Amy Jones • Roger Laegeler • Peter Lowther • Alex & Marilyn Meloy • Keith A. McMullen
Robert A. Montgomery • Kay Morgan • Lake Forest Open Lands Association • Erich Peterson • Elaine Regehr
Karen Rodemaker • Orris & Lois Seng • Muriel Smith • Joe Suchecki • Wayne Svoboda • Lynne N. Tamura
M.A. & M.S. Traylor • Charles A. Westcott • John L. Wier • Daniel & Barbara Williams
Sinclair Winton • Ted Wolff • Gordon C. Wood & Ann B. Maine • Laraine Wright

SEND SEASONAL REPORTS TO:

Winter Field Notes Due by 7 March
(1 December through 28 February)

Send to: Kelly McKay, 420 First Ave.,
PO Box 452, Hampton, IL 61256-0452
E-mail: KellyJMcKay@aol.com

Spring Field Notes Due by 7 June
(1 March through 31 May)

Send to: Paul R. Clyne, 5538 S. Blackstone Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60637

Breeding Season Field Notes Due by 7 August
(1 June through 30 July)

Send to: Vernon Kleen
Natural Heritage Division
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
524 S. 2nd Street
Springfield, IL 62701-1787
E-mail: VKLEEN@dnrmail.state.il.us

Fall Season Field Notes Due by 7 December
(1 August through 30 November)

Send to: Robert Chapel, 306 1/2 West California,
Urbana, IL 61801
E-mail: r-chapel@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Members of the Illinois Ornithological Society receive *Meadowlark*, our quarterly journal, plus *Wings Over the Prairie*, our quarterly newsletter. Members are also invited to special field trips, the annual meetings, and other IOS functions.

To join or send a gift subscription, please send your name or that of the gift recipient, address, and telephone number along with fee to:

IOS Membership, P.O. Box 931
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Fees: Sponsor, $500+; Supporter, $100+; Contributor $50+, Family, $30+; Individual $20+; Full-time Student, $10+.

Back issues of Volumes 2 through 9 are available for $4 each. Some back issues of Volume 1 are also available at $5 each.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

- We welcome manuscripts, photographs, and illustrations for possible publication in *Meadowlark*.
- Article topics include unusual bird sightings and nesting accounts, technical papers on bird research, bird-finding guides, field identification tips, and other articles related to birds of Illinois and the Midwest.
- Although this is not a peer-reviewed journal, we do send articles to our Technical Review Board. The review board offers comments on improving and completing the article for publication.
- Manuscripts should be double spaced and on only one side of numbered pages. We require two copies of the manuscript. Please keep one for yourself. Please also send an IBM-compatible disc in either Word, WordPerfect or RTF format. Tables must be camera ready and fit our journal format.
- We prefer clear black and white or color prints. Color slides may also be acceptable.
- Include your name, address, day phone, and night phone with a cover letter. Other pertinent information about your qualifications and background is also helpful.
- We reserve the right to review and edit articles according to style, grammar, accuracy, and readability.

Send articles, photographs, illustrations, and inquiries to:

Sheryl De Vore, Chief Editor
967 Braeburn Road
Mundelein, IL 60060
E-mail: sdevore@voyager.net

Springhouse begins where the travel brochures leave off.
Read about the real Southern Illinois:
History, folklore, humor, recipes, and letters – always plenty of letters.
One-year subscription (6 issues) $25.00

Springhouse
P.O. Box 61 • Herod, IL 62947
Tel. No. (618) 252-3341

Meadowlark.
American Museum of Natural
History
Received on: 01-03-02

AMNH LIBRARY
100233030

Harris's Sparrow, Lake Sangchris, Sangamon Co. 30 December, 2000.
Photo by Dennis Oehmke.